







**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 Health and Environmental Control was deferred.

Ordinance #2003-81

Councilman Oakley made a motion to grant third reading approval of Ordinance #2003-81, an Ordinance to amend the Georgetown County Zoning Article VIII, Section 808 (Setback Exceptions for Certain Structures). Councilman Morant seconded the motion. Chairman Hemingway asked for discussion. There was none.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton Tomas Earl Drayton Sel Hemingway Johnny Morant	Johnny Morant Jerry Oakley Helen Rudolph
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Opposed: David L. Hood

**SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES:**

Ordinance #2003-50

Second reading of Ordinance #2003-50, which has been revised to incorporate the recommendations of various community groups, was previously referred back to the Georgetown County Planning Commission for further consideration. County Council deferred the issue pending a report from the Planning Commission.

Ordinance #2003-77

Ordinance #2003-77 authorizing Georgetown County to offer economic incentives to new or expanding industries was deferred. The proposed ordinance was previously referred to the County Council Administration & Finance Committee for closer review. The issue was deferred pending a report from the Committee.

Ordinance #2003-85

Councilman Morant moved to grant second reading approval of Ordinance #2003-85, an ordinance to amend the FY 2004 Operating Budget for Georgetown County, South Carolina. Councilwoman \ Rudolph seconded the motion. There was no discussion.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton Thomas Earl Drayton Sel Hemingway David L. Hood	Johnny Morant Jerry Oakley Helen Rudolph
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Ordinance #2003-86

Councilman Oakley made a motion, seconded by Councilman Charlton, to grant second reading approval of Ordinance #2003-86, an Ordinance to amend the Georgetown County Zoning Ordinance Article VI, Section 611.214 - Vendor Requirements. Chairman Hemingway asked for discussion.

Councilman Drayton expressed concern regarding the affect this may have on local vendors, such as the local farmers that sell vegetables from their pickup truck. He stated that he did not want this to adversely have an effect on them.



**FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES – By Title Only**

The following ordinances were introduced for first reading approval:

Ordinance #2004-01 – An Ordinance to amend Ordinance 97-18 establishing a Returned Check Fee.

Ordinance #2004-02 – An Ordinance to amend the Official Zoning Map of Georgetown County to rezone 27.5 acres located at the southwest intersection of Bellamy Avenue and US Highway 17 from General Commercial and General Residential to Planned Development.

Ordinance #2004-03 – An Ordinance to amend the Georgetown County Zoning Ordinance; Article IV, Section 401, General Provisions.

Ordinance #2004-04 - An Ordinance to amend the Official Zoning Map of Georgetown County to rezone 4457 square feet of property located at Litchfield Boulevard just west of the intersection of Drayton Court from General Commercial to Resort Commercial was withdrawn at the request of applicant.

**BIDS**

Articulated Truck for Solid Waste Facility

Councilman Morant made a motion to accept a bid to enter into a lease purchase plan with Industrial Tractor of Andrews (\$58,071.42 annually for a five-year period) for an articulated truck. Councilman Drayton seconded the motion. Chairman Hemingway asked for discussion. There was none.

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

Aerial Mosquito Abatement Program

Councilman Drayton made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hood to award bid to Williamsburg Air Service of Kingstree, SC to perform requirements for an aerial mosquito abatement program. Councilman Hemingway asked for discussion.

Councilman Hemingway verified that \$109,000 has been budgeted for these services. He suggested that County Council might need to consider budgetary provisions should the County encounter a situation similar to those in previous years where usually wet weather intensifies the mosquito population.

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

**REPORTS TO COUNCIL:**

Accommodations Tax Guidelines

A motion was made by Councilman Charlton, and seconded by Councilman Morant to adopt an amendment to the accommodations tax guidelines as proposed by the Accommodations Tax Committee inserting the following terminology back into the guidelines: "If your organization received funding last year, a copy of the final financial statement for this project must accompany you application".

There was no further discussion on this issue.

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

Georgetown County Visitors Bureau (GCVB)

A motion was made by Councilman Oakley and seconded by Councilman Charlton to approve two amendments to the Georgetown County Visitors Bureau Bylaws as requested by the Board and outlined in a memorandum to County Council from GCVB President, Mr. Jim Woodring. The reason for the changes is to clarify the status of inactive members and expand the board membership. Chairman Hemingway asked for discussion. There was none.

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

Beautification Committee – Year End Report

County Council received as information a year-end report from Georgetown County Beautification Committee Chairperson, Mr. Harrison Hall. The report included the Committee's accomplishments throughout the past year and goals for the upcoming year.

United Way Campaign Report

Mr. Greg Troutman, County Administrative Services Director provided a report to County Council on the success of the Georgetown County Employee United Way Campaign. The campaign was the most successful in the county's history raising \$20,704.01 in contributions and pledges from Georgetown County employees.

Veteran's Affairs Office Operations

County Council reviewed operational issues regarding the Veteran's Affairs Office. A motion was made by Councilman Drayton and seconded by Councilman Oakley to reduce the hours of operation of the Veteran's Affairs Office to a 3 day workweek (on a 90 day trial basis) beginning in April 2004. Councilman Hemingway asked for discussion.

Members of County Council stressed the importance of veterans currently receiving services from the Veterans Affairs Office are to be sufficiently notified of changes. Councilman Charlton urged staff to adequately research, which three days of the week the office should open to most conveniently serve the public. If the new arrangement is not satisfactory, the office should return to a 5-day week without waiting out the 90-day trial period.

Councilman Hood expressed concern that the office could be restructured differently way, and remain in operation 5 days a week if the total number of staff members is reduced by the one employee that is retiring. Councilwoman Rudolph questioned if the Veterans Affairs Officer is required to be a veteran. This is not a requirement.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton	Johnny Morant
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Jerry Oakley
	Sel Hemingway	

Opposed: David L. Hood Helen Rudolph

Emergency Medical Service Fee Schedule

Councilman Oakley made a motion to adopt a new fee schedule for Emergency Medical Services titled "Georgetown County Ambulance Fee Schedule" and dated December 22, 2003. Councilman Morant seconded the motion. Chairman Hemingway asked for discussion. There was none.

In Favor: Ron Charlton Johnny Morant  
Thomas Earl Drayton Jerry Oakley  
Sel Hemingway Helen Rudolph

Opposed: David L. Hood

2004 Midyear Budget Report

County Administrator, Mr. Thomas W. Edwards, Jr. provided a 2004 Midyear Budget Report. The report was provided as information and required no action of council.

Lease Renewal for Central Traffic Court

Councilman Hood made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Rudolph to approve the extension of a lease through June 30, 2004 with Consolidated Investments Limited Partnership for the facility presenting housing central traffic court. Chairman Hemingway asked for discussion. There was none.

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

Winyah Rescue Squad – Vehicle Maintenance

Councilman Morant made a motion to authorize Winyah Rescue Squad to have maintenance of its rescue vehicles performed through First Vehicle Services through a direct billing arrangement between the two parties, and at no cost to the County. Councilman Drayton seconded the motion. Chairman Hemingway asked for discussion. There was none.

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

Agreement with Spanish Moss Development for Excavation Project

Councilman Hood made a motion to approve a license agreement (as amended to add indemnity clause) with Spanish Moss Development LLC for an excavation project. Councilman Drayton seconded the motion. Chairman Hemingway asked for discussion. There was none.

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

Employee Short-term Disability Insurance

Councilman Drayton approved offering voluntary short-term disability insurance to Georgetown

County employees through Colonial Life & Accident Insurance Company. Councilman Oakley seconded the motion. Chairman Hemingway asked for discussion. There was none.

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Prior to moving into Executive Session, Chairman Hemingway noted that Councilman Oakley and Councilman Hood had disclosed a potential conflict of interest in their 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 and Councilman Hood's letter of request will be incorporated into the minutes of this meeting by reference.

Councilman Charlton made a motion to move into Executive Session to discuss a contractual/legal issue regarding the Murrells Inlet Dredging Project. Councilman Morant seconded the motion. Chairman Hemingway asked for discussion. No discussion occurred.

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

County Council moved into Executive Session at 7:52 PM.

**OPEN SESSION:**

County Council returned to Open Session at 8:27 PM. Chairman Hemingway stated that while in Executive Session, County Council discussed an issue regarding the Murrells Inlet Dredging Project. No action and no votes were taken while in Executive Session.

Councilman Morant made a motion to authorize the County to enter into a contractual arrangement with a new contractor, under county's emergency procurement policy, to complete the Murrells Inlet Dredging Project. The contract price (with the new vendor) will be withheld from the final payment made to Black & Veatch Construction. Councilman Drayton seconded the motion. Chairman Hemingway asked for discussion. There was none.

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

As there was no further business to discuss, Councilman Charlton moved to adjourn the meeting.

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Date Approved

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Clerk to Council

