

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL VIRTUAL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY; JUNE 29, 2020; 6:00 P. M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, HAMPTON COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER
200 JACKSON AVENUE, EAST, HAMPTON, SC**

Hampton County Council held a special meeting virtually on Monday, June 29, 2020, 6:00 p. m., Council Chambers, Hampton County Administrative Center, Hampton, South Carolina. Council Member(s) present: Clay Bishop, Chairman; Charles H. “Buddy” Phillips, Vice Chairman; Roy Hollingsworth, Ronald G. “Breeze” Winn, and Darin Williams. Council Member(s) absent: None. Staff present: Rose Dobson-Elliott, Administrator and Aline Newton, Clerk to Council and A. G. Solomons, Jr., County Attorney. Staff absent: None. Wilson Holland, Hampton County Information Technology Director and Brantley Strickland, Hampton County Project Manager, were present. Media present: None. The meeting was advertised as prescribed by law.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Bishop called the virtual meeting to order.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION:

Council Member Winn gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Hollingsworth.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

ADOPTION OF THE JUNE 29, 2020 HAMPTON COUNTY VIRTUAL SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA:

Chairman Bishop asked for a motion to adopt the agenda. **Moved** by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Hollingsworth, to approve the June 29, 2020 Hampton County Council Special Meeting agenda and consent agenda as stated. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Members’ votes:

Roy Hollingsworth – Yes

Charles H. “Buddy” Phillips – Yes

Darin Williams – Yes

Clay Bishop – Yes

Ronald Winn – Yes

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

Chairman Bishop stated that due to the COVID-19 Threat, public comments were accepted in writing via email to the Clerk to Council at anewton@hamptoncountysc.org. Citizens were asked to please place in the subject line HC 2020-2021 FY Budget Public Comment 06/29/2020, or to mail to the Hampton County Council’s Office at 200 Jackson Ave., E., Hampton, SC 29924. All comments were to be received by noon on Monday, June 29, 2020, to be presented to Council at the meeting. Chairman Bishop asked that the Chair will maintain order at all times. Chairman Bishop opened the public hearing to receive public comments for third reading to the Hampton

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County 2020-2021 Fiscal Year Budget. He explained that there was one gentleman who sent in questions. He commented that he will address the last question and Administrator Dobson Elliott will address the first and second question. Chairman Bishop read the questions:

Question 1:

With all of the legal fees that Hampton County has paid out over the last several years on various lawsuits, can you tell us exactly how much has been invoiced (thus far) for the legal bills in the fight over the airport access with Company Two Fire?

Question 2:

Can you tell us how much of that bill has been paid so far over the last 3 years??

Response to Questions 1 & 2:

Administrator Dobson Elliott stated that \$35,137.00 (Thirty five thousand, one hundred thirty-seven dollars) has been invoiced and paid to Ness Law firm.

Question 3:

With the lawsuit between Co2 Fire & Hampton County getting started again soon Does the Council intend on trying to work out a solution with Co2 Fire to avoid any additional legal fees of taxpayer monies??

Response:

Chairman Bishop commented that this question will not be addressed, because there is ongoing litigation.

Chairman Bishop closed the public hearing.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Bishop commented that there were no public comments received.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

JUNE 15, 2020 HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES:

Chairman Bishop asked for a motion to approve the minutes. **Moved** by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Hollingsworth, to approve the June 15, 2020 Hampton County Council Virtual Meeting Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Members' votes:

Roy Hollingsworth – Yes

Charles H. “Buddy” Phillips – Yes

Darin Williams – Yes

Ronald Winn – Yes

Clay Bishop – Yes

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PRESENTATION(S)

There were no presentation(s).

APPOINTMENT(S)

SOUTHERNCAROLINA ALLIANCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Council voted by ballot to appoint Clay Bishop to the SouthernCarolina Alliance Board of Directors.

RESOLUTION(S)/PROCLAMATION(S)

There were no resolution(s)/proclamation(s).

ORDINANCE(S)

THIRD READING TO THE HAMPTON COUNTY 2020-2021 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET:

Moved by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Hollingsworth, with the understanding that not increasing millage to approve the Hampton County Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget. (See Hampton County Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget attached.) Council Member Winn had comments regarding the budget (See attachment). Motion carried.

Council Members' votes:

Roy Hollingsworth – Yes

Charles H. "Buddy" Phillips – Yes

Darin Williams – Yes

Ronald Winn – No

Clay Bishop – Yes

BID(S)

There were no bid(s).

COUNCIL BRIEFING(S)

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE:

Chairman Bishop had no update.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S UPDATE:

The County Attorney had no update.

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CLERK’S UPDATE:

The Clerk had no update.

REPORT(S) TO COUNCIL

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:

Administrator Dobson-Elliott reported that they signed the contract with Lowcountry Council of Governments for the Hampton County Council on Aging. She commented that the Council on Aging had been placed in the high risk and have been removed from the high risk due to Linda Kears. She would like to commend Ms. Kears and her staff.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There were no executive session matters.

REPORT OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

There were no executive session matters to report out.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Council Member Hollingsworth, seconded by Vice Chairman Phillips, to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Bishop adjourned the meeting.

Council Members’ votes:

Roy Hollingsworth – Yes

Charles H. “Buddy” Phillips – Yes

Darin Williams – Yes

Ronald Winn – Yes

Clay Bishop – Yes

Minutes Respectfully Submitted By:

Aline Newton, Clerk to Council

Hampton County Council Members:

Clay Bishop, Chair

Charles H. Phillips, Vice Chair

Roy Hollingsworth

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Ronald G. Winn

Darin Williams