

Hampton County Council and the Hampton County Legislative Delegation held a special meeting on Monday, September 20, 2005, 6:00 p. m., Council Chambers, B. T. DeLoach Building, Hampton, South Carolina. Hampton County Legislative Delegation Member(s) present: John W. Matthews, Jr., SC Senator; William K. "Bill" Bowers, SC House of Representative Member; R. Thayer Rivers, Jr., SC House of Representative Member. Legislative Delegation Member(s) absent: Clementa Pinckney, SC Senator. Council Member(s) present: Lisa Ball, Lee S. Bowers, Virgin Johnson, Sr.; Margaret S. Parker, Chairman and Willard E. Wilson, Vice Chair. Staff present: Sabrena Posey-Graham, Administrator; Aline Newton, Clerk to Council and A. G. Solomons, Jr., County Attorney. Media present: Mr. Wayne Knuckles, The Hampton County Guardian. The meeting was advertised as prescribed by law.

## **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Parker called the meeting to order. Chairman Parker turned the meeting over to the Legislative Delegation. William "Bill" Bowers, Chairman, Legislative Delegation, presided over the meeting. Senator John Matthews and Representative Thayer Rivers were in attendance. Senator Matthews gave an update on economic development discussions in the senate for rural counties, etc. He stated that they are discussing several options for exemptions, property tax relief, school funding and economic development to help grow the capacity of poor, rural counties like Hampton County, etc. Representative Rivers wanted the County to remind the seniors that they need to pick a plan under the new Medicare reform. He stated that if they do not, then those seniors who do not will not benefit from the program. He stated that there is not an agency out there informing the seniors. He also gave his position on the options that Senator Matthews discussed. Senator Matthews also stated that they are waiting on the decision from Judge Cooper regarding the school funding. He stated that the Judge's opinion is scheduled to be out by the end of September 2005. He stated that as soon as his decision is made, and if it supports equalized school funding, then the job of the legislature is not to appeal his decision. There were several comments from the public. The Legislative Delegation thanked Council for allowing them the time. Chairman Parker thanked the Legislative Delegation Members. Representative Bowers adjourned the meeting.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p. m. Chairman Parker stated that the Legislative Delegation Members and the Hampton County Council would be eating dinner at Taylor's Restaurant, Varnville, South Carolina.