

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY; JANUARY 3, 2006; 6:00 P. M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, B. T. DeLOACH BUILDING, HAMPTON, SC**

Hampton County Council held its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, January 3, 2006, 6:00 p. m., Council Chambers, B. T. DeLoach Building, Hampton, South Carolina. 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.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION:

Pastor Kevin Byrd, Chaplain, Hampton County, gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Parker.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

There were no public hearing(s).

PUBLIC COMMENT(S)

There were no public comment(s).

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

ADOPTION OF JANUARY 3, 2006 COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA:

Chairman Parker asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Administrator Graham stated that she did not have any. Chairman Parker stated that she wanted to add the MLK Parade Invitation to the agenda. She stated that the MLK parade will be Sunday, January 15, 2006 with line-up in Varnville on Pine Street at 1:30 p. m. The parade will begin at 3:00 p. m. She asked Council if they would like to participate in the parade. Chairman Parker stated that she planned to participate. She asked that the form be sent entering Council in the parade. Other council members will let the office know if they plan to participate. She stated that this matter should have been listed as 12.1.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

DECEMBER 5, 2005 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

Chairman Parker asked if there were any changes to the minutes. There were none. **Moved** by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Bowers, to approve the December 5, 2005 minutes. Council Members Ball and Parker stated that they were not at the meeting so they could not approve the minutes. Chairman Parker stated that approval of the December 5, 2005 minutes would be deferred until there was a quorum who attended the last meeting to vote. (Council Member Wilson had not arrived yet.)

DECEMBER 12, 2005 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES:

Chairman Parker asked if there were any changes to the minutes. There were none. Moved by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Ball, to approve the December 12, 2005 minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

MR. GERHARD GRESSMAN, SPORTS CAR CLUB OF AMERICA (SCCA), REGARDING A REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO HOLD A SOLO 2, ONE DAY RACE, AT THE HAMPTON-VARNVILLE AIRPORT:

Mr. Gressman came before council and requested the use of the Hampton-Varnville Airport for a Solo 2, one day race, at the Hampton-Varnville, Airport. He explained to council the details of the race. He stated that he had spoken with the Airport Commission, County Administrator and the County Attorney regarding the race. Mr. Gressman stated that they are looking at the date of September 30, 2006 for the race. Administrator Graham asked if he could get them an agreement regarding the request. Mr. Gressman stated that he had already provided an agreement to the County Attorney for review. Council asked that a copy of the agreement be sent to them, and the matter be put on the next meeting agenda.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

There were no appointment(s).

RESOLUTION(S)

There were no resolution(s).

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ORDINANCES

There were no ordinance(s).

BIDS

There were no bid(s) scheduled.

COUNCIL'S BRIEFING

MLK PARADE INVITATION:

Chairman Parker stated that Council will participate in the MLK Day Parade.

REPORTS TO COUNCIL

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Sale of Surplus Ambulance

Administrator stated that a 1997 Ford F-350 ambulance was taken out of service last fiscal year, and interest was expressed in purchasing the ambulance. She stated that bids were solicited for the sale of the ambulance via an ad in the local paper. She stated that the ambulance was being used for coroner transports. She stated that a vehicle is needed for coroner transports but not an ambulance. Administrator Graham stated that the proceeds from the sale of the ambulance will be used to purchase a van or some other vehicle for coroner transports. She stated that a bid was received from Low Country Medical Transport for \$10,025 (ten thousand, twenty-five dollars). Administrator Graham stated that they are comfortable with the bid. Council Member Bowers asked if they recommended the bid. She stated that they did. **Moved by** Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Bowers, to accept the bid. Motion carried unanimously.

Introduction of the New Building Inspector and a Report from the Building Department Regarding the Nuisance Ordinance

Administrator Graham introduced Randy Crews, Building Inspector. Mr. Crews stated that he was born and raised in Hampton County. He stated that after 25 years of working out of the county, he was happy to be able to come back to work and serve the county. He stated that Mr. Mixson, former Building Inspector, had pictures of 26 properties. He stated that Mr. Mixson had sent registered letters for 12 of those, 2 had abatement agreements and 2 had been corrected. Chairman Parker asked if he had prior experience in dealing with Nuisance Ordinances. Mr. Crews stated that he had experience in Jasper County. He stated that he had posted over 100 mobile homes, but Jasper County did not have a procedure to deal with cited properties. He stated that Hampton does. Mr. Crews stated that situations just did not get like they are, it happened over years, not a few months, so correction of problems are going to take time. Council Member Bowers asked if he

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could have a list of the properties cited. He asked that Mr. Crews give the list to the Clerk to Council or the Administrator or it could be e-mailed to him. Mr. Crews stated that he would do so. Council thanked Mr. Crews for his report.

Southern Carolina Alliance November 2005 Activity Report

Administrator Graham stated that the Southern Carolina Alliance report was presented to council as information.

Capital Projects Sales Tax Receipt Summary

Administrator Graham stated that the actual collections totaled \$2,559,305. She stated that this covers the period from the initial quarter ended October 2003 to the last quarter ended October 2005. She gave the totals for:

- Fiscal Year 2004 - \$943,459
- Fiscal Year 2005 - \$1,253,480
- Quarter 1 of Fiscal Year 2006 - \$362,366

She stated that she used a conservative growth factor of .25% to calculate estimated collections for all future periods. She stated that the estimated total collections are \$8,769,846.10. She stated that she was presenting this to council as information. Chairman Parker stated that they (collections) are looking better. She hopes that it continues.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Parker stated that Council was in need of an executive session to discuss a personnel matter and an economic development matter. Administrator Graham stated that they did not need the economic development matter. **Moved** by Council Member Ball, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to go into executive session to discuss a personnel matter of a department of one. Motion carried. Session began 6:42 p. m. and ended 7:15 p. m. **After coming out of executive session**, Chairman Parker stated that a personnel matter was discussed regarding a department of one which cannot be divulged, and Council gave directions to the Chairman.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Chairman Parker adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p. m.