

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY; JULY 17, 2006; 6:00 P. M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, B. T. DeLOACH BUILDING, HAMPTON, SC**

Hampton County Council held its regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, July 17, 2006, 6:00 p. m., Council Chambers, B. T. DeLoach Building, Hampton, South Carolina. Council Member(s) present: Virgin Johnson, Sr.; Margaret S. Parker, Chairman and Willard E. Wilson, Vice Chairman. Council Member(s) absent: Lisa Ball and Lee S. Bowers. 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 Byrd, County Chaplain, gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Parker.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

HOSPITAL RESOLUTION:

Chairman Parker opened the public hearing to receive public comments regarding the hospital project. Administrator Graham stated that the resolution was for the support of the issuance by the South Carolina Jobs-Economic Development Authority of its Hospital Refunding and Improvement Revenue Bonds (Hampton Regional Medical Center Project), Series 2006, pursuant to the provisions of Title 41, Chapter 43, of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended, in the aggregate principal amount of not exceeding \$40,000,000. Mr. Wayne Knuckles, Hampton County Guardian, wanted to know what part did the county play in this bond. Administrator Graham stated that they allowed the hospital to hold the public hearing, and the resolution was a show of support for the project. She stated that there was no financial obligation from the county regarding this project. Mr. Hamill gave a brief update of the project. There were no other comments. Chairman Parker closed the public hearing.

PUBLIC COMMENT(S)

There were no public comment(s).

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ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

ADOPTION OF THE JULY 17, 2006 COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA:

Chairman Parker asked if there were any changes to the agenda. The following revisions were requested: (1) Personnel Matter – Department of One – 14.2, (2) Sheriff’s Department Out of State Travel Requests - 13.1.4, (3) Sheriff’s Department Vehicle Request – 13.1.5. Administrator Graham stated that there were copies of the out of state travel requests on council’s desk. **Moved** by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to adopt the agenda with the requested revisions. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

JUNE 19, 2006 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

Chairman Parker asked if there were any changes to the minutes. **Moved** by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

JUNE 26, 2006 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES:

Chairman Parker asked if there were any changes to the minutes. **Moved** by Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

KNIGHTSBRIGES PRESENTATION:

Dr. Hal Wrigley, CEO, Knightsbridge Chemical, gave a presentation regarding his biofuel company. (See attachment #1). At the end of the presentation, Dr. Wrigley made a request to council for a:

- Tax Abatement for 5 years
- Lower Valuation Rate of 6%

Chairman Parker stated that council had the request and would discuss in executive session tonight.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

APPOINTMENTS:

Council voted by secret ballots to appoint the following to the:

Arts Council: Ernie Glynn
Library Board:Maureen Gaeddert

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RESOLUTION(S)

HOSPITAL RESOLUTION:

Moved by Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to adopt the resolution in support of the issuance by the South Carolina Jobs-Economic Development Authority of its Hospital Refunding and Improvement Revenue Bonds (Hampton Regional Medical Center Project), Series 2006, pursuant to the provisions of Title 41, Chapter 43, of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended, in the aggregate principal amount of not exceeding \$40,000,000. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCES

SECOND (2nd) READING TO ORDINANCE # 2006-008, ORDINANCE TO IMPLEMENT THE REASSESSMENT PROGRAM:

Administrator Graham stated that when the ordinance was proposed, the legislature had not approved the law. She stated that now they have passed the law to implement the reassessment program. **Moved** by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to give second (2nd) reading to Ordinance #2006-008, ordinance to implement the reassessment program. Motion carried unanimously.

SECOND (2nd) READING TO ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE 12 ACRES TO LeCREUSET:

Administrator Graham requested that the ordinance be revised to add the Exhibit with the description of the property. **Moved** by Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to give second (2nd) reading to the ordinance with the revision. Motion carried unanimously.

FIRST (1st) READING TO ORDINANCE #2006-010, MILLAGE ORDINANCE BY TITLE ONLY:

Administrator Graham asked that the millage ordinance be given first reading by title only. She stated that they will have the figures for the second reading. **Moved** by Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to give first (1st) reading to ordinance #2006-010, Millage Ordinance by title only. Motion carried unanimously.

FIRST (1st) READING TO ORDINANCE #2006-011, FALSE FIRE ALARM ORDINANCE BY TITLE ONLY:

Administrator Graham stated that the purpose of the ordinance is to protect the public interest and to reduce unnecessary emergency responses to false fire alarms. There was a short discussion. Council stated that they wanted to make sure that this was not an ordinance just to generate revenue. Gene Rushing, Fire Chief, stated that it was not. He stated that it was requested to eliminate false fire alarms. **Moved** by Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to give first (1st) reading to Ordinance #2006-011, False Fire Alarm Ordinance by title only. Motion carried unanimously.

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FIRST (1st) READING TO ORDINANCE #2006-012, GRANTING OF EASEMENT TO OAKWOOD PRODUCTS BY TITLE ONLY:

Moved by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to give first (1st) reading to Ordinance #2006-012, Granting of Easement to Oakwood Products by title only. Motion carried unanimously.

BIDS

There were no bid(s) scheduled.

COUNCIL'S BRIEFING

SALVAGE / JUNKYARD ORDINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT (COUNCIL MEMBER WILSON):

Council Member Wilson stated that the committee's recommendation was to reject the adoption of the Salvage / Junkyard Ordinance, because the county had an ordinance in place that addresses the situation. Council Member Wilson stated that if the Planning Commission felt that something is required to enforce the ordinance in place, then Council asks that the Planning Commission send their concerns to Council for review. He stated that at this time, the Salvage / Junkyard Ordinance Committee sees no reason to add an ordinance that addresses the same issues that are outlined in the Unified Land Development Ordinance, which is already in place. Council Member Wilson stated that this was the recommendation of the committee. Chairman Parker stated that this was the recommendation coming from the committee. She stated that the recommendation from a committee was the same as a motion. It was seconded by Chairman Parker. Motion carried unanimously.

LCOG REPORT (CHAIRMAN PARKER):

Chairman Parker gave her report. She stated that last month Director's report was about Hampton County. She explained that the Hwy 68 widening project was initiated by LCOG. Chairman Parker stated that Ms. Jeannine Cannington now sits on the Executive Committee for the LCOG Board. Mr. Bickley added that Mr. Jimmy Bilka who is also from Hampton County is the incoming Board Chairman. (See attachment #2)

REPORTS TO COUNCIL

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Wave Building Permit Fees for Hampton Regional Medical Center (HRMC)

Administrator Graham stated that the hospital made the request to waive the building permit fees for

Hampton Regional Medical Center. Council stated that they would like more time to study the request. **Moved** by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to defer the matter. Motion carried unanimously.

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Recycling Grant Awards

Administrator Graham told council that the recycling department received a Waste Tire Grant, Solid Waste Grant and a Used Oil Grant. Administrator Graham stated that thanks to John Stanley and LCOG the county received these three grants totaling \$51,300 with no cash match.

Southern Carolina Alliance

Administrator Graham presented to council a copy of Southern Carolina Alliance's Activity Report. She stated that she was sharing it with Council as information

Sheriff's Department Out of State Travel Requests

Administrator Graham stated that she had a request from the sheriff's department for two trips that were scheduled for out of state. She stated that one was for an officer to attend a Missing and Exploited Children's training from July 30th to August 1st. She stated that the cost for this trip would be approximately \$69.00 (sixty-nine dollars) to the county. The other was for two (2) officers to go to a training on courthouse security. She stated that it was from July 25th to July 27th and the cost was \$1,409.56 (one thousand, four hundred nine dollars and fifty-six cents). Administrator Graham stated that funds are budgeted. **Moved** by Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to approve both out of state travel requests as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Sheriff Department's Request for Purchase Order for Vehicle Purchase

Major Firster came before council and requested a purchase order for vehicle purchase. Major Firster stated that there were four vehicles down and the others had very high mileage. Administrator Graham stated that normally the timing for making capital purchases is in January, and secondly the request would need to go through the process of soliciting bids, etc. Council asked if the vehicles were the state purchase. He stated that they were getting them for the state purchase price. Council asked if the vehicles were budgeted. Administrator Graham stated that they were budgeted. **Moved** by Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to allow a purchase order to be issued for four vehicles at \$25,500 (twenty-five thousand, five hundred dollars) each vehicle. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Parker asked that the sheriff's department try not to come back for the purchase of the other two vehicles until January. Administrator Graham asked that Major Firster get the specs for the vehicles to Mike Meyer, Finance Director.

Request to Add to Agenda the Bid for the Telephone for the Emergency Services Building

Administrator Graham stated that she thought she had added this item to the agenda but had not and requested that council add the bid for the telephone for the emergency services building to the agenda. Chairman Parker asked if council had any objections. Council stated that they had no objections. Chairman Parker stated that the item was added by acclamation.

Bid for the Telephone for the Emergency Services Building

Administrator Graham stated that she received the bids for the telephone for the emergency services building. She stated that the bids came back differently from the RFPs and had to be sent back for bidders to put the bids in correct format, etc. She stated that she got assistance in interpreting the information, because the information received was so varied based on services, etc. Council Member Wilson stated that he would like to see the bids. **Moved** by Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to table the matter until the next time. Administrator Graham stated that she had a concern, because she was trying to move as quickly and if they did not

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do it now, it would be August 7th before, Council Member Wilson stated that he will withdraw his motion until he has an opportunity to review the information. Chairman Parker asked if there were any objections to going on. There were no objections.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Parker stated that an executive session was needed for economic development matter (contractual matter), personnel matter and a contractual matter. **Moved** by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to go into executive session to discuss an economic development matter (contractual), a contractual matter and a personnel matter. Motion carried unanimously. Session began. 7:35 p. m. and ended 8:12 p. m.. **After coming out of executive session**, Chairman Parker stated that the following were discussed:

- Contractual Matter - Council gave the administrator directives.
- Personnel Matter – Council gave the administrator directives.
- Economic Development Matter – Council will make a motion to address this.

Bid for Telephone for Emergency Services Building

Moved by Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to approve the recommendation of bid by the Administrator from Systems and Services for \$33,496.85 for the telephone system for the Emergency Services Building. Motion carried unanimously.

Request from Knightsbridge

Moved by Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to approve the request from Knightsbridge Chemical for the abatement for five years at a valuation rate of 6% pending a written request from Knightsbridge and proper paperwork being reviewed by the County Attorney. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Chairman Parker adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p. m.