

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL'S MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY; OCTOBER 15, 2007; 6:00 P. M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, B. T. DeLOACH BUILDING
201 JACKSON AVENUE, WEST, HAMPTON, SC**

Hampton County Council held its regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, October 15, 2007, 6:00 p. m., Council Chambers, B. T. DeLoach Building, Hampton, South Carolina. Council Member(s) present: Hugh B. Gray, Chairman; Virgin Johnson, Sr.; Charles H. "Buddy" Phillips and Margaret S. "Peggy" Parker, Vice Chairman. Council Member(s) absent: Willard E. Wilson. Staff present: Sabrena Posey Graham, Administrator; Aline Newton, Clerk to Council and A. G. Solomons, Jr., County Attorney. Media present: Shellie Murdaugh, The Hampton County Guardian. The meeting was advertised as prescribed by law.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Gray called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION:

Pastor Byrd gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Phillips.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

There were no public hearing(s),

PUBLIC COMMENT(S)

There were no public comment(s).

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

ADOPTION OF THE OCTOBER 15, 2007 COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA:

Moved by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to adopt the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**OCTOBER 1, 2007 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES AND OCTOBER 1, 2007
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:**

Chairman Gray asked if there were any changes to the minutes. **Moved** by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to approve both sets of minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

**PRESENTATION BY ALINE K. "KRISSEY" NEWTON, 4-H STATE COUNCIL
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE REGARDING 4-H'S CENTENNIAL:**

Aline K. "Krissey" Newton came before council and shared that 4-H was celebrating its centennial and asked that council adopt a proclamation recognizing 4-H's Centennial. She also shared information about events that were planned for Hampton County such as the 4-H Alumni Find and a 4-H Green Tea. Council thanked Ms. Newton for her presentation. **Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to adopt the proclamation recognizing 4-H's centennial. Motion carried unanimously. Ms. Newton thanked council.

AGAPE HOSPICE:

Mrs. **Teresa** Umis came before council and made a presentation regarding AGAPE Hospice. She shared that AGAPE was a faith based hospice program and that it was local. Council thanked Ms. Umis for her presentation.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

There were no appointment(s).

RESOLUTION(S)

PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING 4-H's CENTENNIAL:

(See Presentations)

ORDINANCE(S)

**ORDINANCE #2007-013, TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCE BY PROVIDING
FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF AIRCRAFT SUBJECT TO PROPERTY TAX IN
HAMPTON COUNTY, TO ESTABLISH THE ASSESSMENT RATIO OF THE FAIR
MARKET VALUE OF SUCH AIRCRAFT:**

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Administrator Graham stated that Ordinance #2007-013 was presented for second reading. She stated that the ordinance is to amend the code of ordinances by providing for the assessment of aircraft subject to property tax in Hampton County and to establish the assessment ratio of the fair market value of such aircraft. She stated that this would cut the assessment value from 10.5% to 4%. There was a short discussion regarding the matter. **Moved** by Council Member Parker, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to give second (2nd) reading to Ordinance #2007-013 to reduce the assessment rate from 10.5% to 4% for aircraft. Motion carried unanimously.

BIDS

No bid(s) scheduled.

COUNCIL'S BRIEFING(S)

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE (CHAIRMAN GRAY):
Chairman Gray gave his update. (See Attachment #1)

COUNCIL'S DISCUSSION POINT:
There were no discussion points by council.

JAIL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE'S REPORT:
The Jail and Law Enforcement Committee (Council Members Johnson and Parker) met with Sheriff Smalls to discuss the matter of the overtime rate in the sheriff's department and the manpower issue. Committee Chair Johnson stated that they met for a second time and council had before them the committee's recommendation. **The Jail and Law Enforcement Committee made the following recommendation** regarding the Sheriff's request for overtime and additional manpower: (1) approval of the overtime rate to be paid at time and a half (1.5) for overtime in the sheriff's department to begin January 2008, (2) approval of one new position for November 1, 2007 along with the 10% (10 percent) grant match for two (2) grant positions and (3) consideration of other personnel requests when revisited during budget time.) **The Jail and Law Enforcement Committee's recommendation was seconded by Council Member Phillips.** Chairman Gray asked for discussion. Administrator Graham asked council if they would like her to get the appropriate language from the labor attorney before implementing the time and a half overtime. Chairman Gray called for the question to include the amendment that Labor Attorney reviews it. Motion carried unanimously. Also, the committee reported that the Sheriff will implement new initiatives (Sheriff's Clean Up Day, etc.) to increase awareness, education and enforcement of litter, and a progress report will be submitted at the end of the fiscal year, June 2008.

REPORTS TO COUNCIL

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:
Festival of Trees Wine and Cheese Party

Administrator Graham stated that this was a request for the use of the recreation department to

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hold the Festival of Trees Wine and Cheese Party. Mrs. Tuten, Director, Recreation Department, stated that this was one of the Friends of Hospice's biggest fund raisers. The request coming before council was for a waiver to serve wine at the party. After a short discussion, **it was moved** by Council Member Parker, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to allow the wine and cheese party to be held at the recreation department pending adequate insurance is obtained and reviewed and approved by the County Administrator and the County Attorney. Motion carried unanimously.

Economic Development Commission Quarterly Agenda Presentation

Dr. William Small, Executive Director, Hampton County Economic Development Commission, updated council on the progress of economic development projects, prospects and initiatives.

Council Member Parker asked Dr. Small to provide a progress report on various goals and objectives. Dr. Small stated that when he assumed office, he came before council with specific goals and adjustments that were made by the commission. and not necessary the order that those are listed. Dr. Small asked Dr. Parker if there was a time period in which she wanted to receive the information. She stated that whenever he could get it to her.

Presentation of IT (Information Technology) Policy

Administrator Graham stated that Mr. Kevin Pak, IT Director, will make the presentation, but she wanted to preface his remarks by stating that this policy has been reviewed by all the department heads for the county and everyone was given an opportunity to review it and give some feedback, because it is a new policy that is being adopted. She asked that the policy be adopted and implemented countywide to all departments. Administrator Graham stated that department t heads have been given the opportunity to review and offer suggestions for change, and now it is being presented to council for official approval. Mr. Pak came before council and gave an overview of the IT policy. Council Member Phillips asked Administrator Graham if she read and agreed with the policy. She stated that she did. **Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to adopt the IT Policy. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Parker, to go into executive session to discuss personnel matter(s) and a legal matter. Motion carried unanimously. **Moved** by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to come out of executive session. Motion carried unanimously. Session began 7:00 p. m. and ended 8:12 p. m. After coming out of executive session, Chairman Gray reported the following:

Legal Matter

Chairman Gray stated that council received advice from the County Attorney and discussed the road problem with the Town of Hampton.

Personnel Matter

Chairman Gray stated that council discussed the Administrator's evaluation. He stated that she was given an excellent rating. He stated that it was unanimous. **Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to approve a 2% (two percent) increase for the Administrator. Motion carried unanimously.

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ADJOURNMENT

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