

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL'S MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY; NOVEMBER 2, 2009; 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, November 2, 2009, 6:00 p. m., Council Chambers, B. T. DeLoach Building, Hampton, South Carolina. Council Member(s) present: Hugh B. Gray, Chairman; Virgin Johnson, Sr. and Charles H. "Buddy" Phillips. Council Member(s) absent: Margaret S. "Peggy" Parker, Vice Chairman. Staff present: Sabrena Posey Graham, Administrator; Aline Newton, Clerk to Council and A. G. Solomons, Jr., County Attorney. Media present: Michael DeWitt, The Hampton County Guardian and Shellie Murdaugh, LowcountryUs.Net. 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.

CONSENT AGENDA

5.1 October 19, 2009 Regular Meeting Minutes

Moved by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

ADOPTION OF THE NOVEMBER 2, 2009 COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA:

Chairman Gray asked if there were any changes to the agenda. **Moved** by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to adopt the agenda with the following revision: (1) Add Item #9.4, All Wars Memorial Advisory Committee; (2) Move Item #8.2, Appointment, Keep Hampton County Beautiful Board to Item #9.1. Motion carried unanimously.

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PUBLIC HEARING(S)

There were no public hearing(s).

PUBLIC COMMENT(S)

There were no public comment(s).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes were approved under the Consent Agenda.

PRESENTATION(S)

HAMPTON COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD (MRS. EMILY HIERS, CHAIR):

Mrs. Hiers came before council to inform council and the public about the Hampton County Library's Book Sale. She stated that it was an annual fundraising event. She thanked everyone for their support of the event like the county and the towns that contributed, especially the Town of Varnville for allowing them to use their facility to store and process the books for the sale. The Book Sale would be on November 5-7, 2009. Council thanked Mrs. Hiers and the Library Board for their service.

MR. BRAD SAMUEL, TREASURER, LOWCOUNTRY REGIONAL EDUCATION CENTER ADVISORY BOARD (LRECAB) REGARDING THE GAP ANALYSIS:

Mr. Samuel came before council and explained what the LRECAB was. He stated that the LRECAB represented four counties in the region, Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton and Jasper. He stated that the members were appointed by the Legislative Delegation as a part of the Education and Economic Education Development Act (EEDA). He explained that the EEDA is a comprehensive law designed to give South Carolina students the educational tools they need to build prosperous, successful futures through high school studies and/or career and technical courses that will better prepare them for post-secondary study or the world of work and twenty-first century careers. The LRECAB was established in accordance with EEDA to support the Lowcountry Region of Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton and Jasper Counties. As one of the twelve Regional Education Centers in South Carolina, the Lowcountry Regional Education Center is a network for facilitating connections on behalf of the students, institutions and businesses of the Lowcountry. The economic future of the Lowcountry depends on developing relevant curriculum in K-12 and higher education, communicating needs, and providing appropriate resources to meet educational and workforce development needs. Economic growth depends on our students and careful planning is imperative for a prosperous economy. After giving a little background on the LRECAB and the EEDA, Mr. Samuel, presented the GAP Analysis to council. He stated that the GAP Analysis was a study that provide the schools and community with a regional perspective in terms of meeting the requirements of the EEDA. He stated that the goal of the LRECAB is to provide the schools and community with a regional perspective in

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terms of meeting the requirements of the EEDA. The goal is to provide foundational knowledge needed to develop creative and innovative solutions to educational and workforce gaps. The data gathered in the report was collected during the greatest downturn in our economy since the Great Depression of the early 1930s. He stated that to ensure success in the Lowcountry region, it is going to take all community stakeholders pulling together to get the job done. Mr. Samuel stated that the GAP Analysis identifies career opportunities – bringing business and the educational institutes together. Mr. Samuel stated that every student has to have an IGP (Individual Graduation Plan). This step occurs in the eighth grade. He stated that students can change the career cluster in which they chose, but they have to select one. The law also requires that students do job shadowing to make sure that the career choice is the one that they want to study. After explaining some of the components of the EEDA and the GAP Analysis, Mr. Samuel presented council with a copy of the report.

APPOINTMENT(S) TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

KEEP HAMPTON COUNTY BEAUTIFUL BOARD:

Moved by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to appoint the following by unanimous consent. Motion carried unanimously. The following were appointed to the Keep Hampton County Beautiful Board:

Jean J. DeLoach
Sally S. Dobson
Henry Fields, Jr.
DeThane McKenzie Johnson
Lin Laffitte
Lawton Clarke O’Cain
Marie Strickland
Terry Wright

Mrs. Jean DeLoach came before council and expressed her gratitude to council for the appointments and informed council of some of the activities planned such as a public awareness campaign, etc. Ms. Jennie Stultz, Keep America Beautiful National Trainer and the Mayor of Gastonia, North Carolina, presented council with the certification for the Keep Hampton County Beautiful Board. She stated that this group finished the certification in a very short time. Ms. Sarah Robinson, Public Relations, Keep South Carolina Beautiful, presented council with the Palmetto Pride start-up grant. She stated that the training certification was paid out of the grant. She presented a check in the amount of \$7,700 (seven thousand, seven hundred dollars) to Hampton County for their Keep Hampton County Beautiful Campaign. Chairman Gray stated that he wanted to thank Council Member Parker who was not present for the having the interest and putting the effort into making this a reality.

LOWCOUNTRY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD:

Mr. Jaime Wood, Lowcountry Council of Governments (LCOG), came before council to introduce himself. He stated that the Workforce Investment Board assisted youth and young adults with workforce training, etc. **Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to accept the recommendation and appoint Bridgett Gray-Peeples to the Lowcountry Workforce Investment Board. Motion carried unanimously.

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CAPITAL PROJECTS SALES TAX COMMISSION:

Moved by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to approve the recommendations for the Capital Projects Sales Tax Commission. Motion carried unanimously. The following were appointed:

Alice Hazel

James Black

Kevin Brown

Jeff Willis

Anna Sue Rivers (Appointed by the Town of Hampton)

James Williams (Appointed by the Town of Estill)

ALL WARS MEMORIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Moved by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to reorganize the All Wars Memorial Advisory Committee and appoint the following:

J. C. Clifton, Chair

Mary Ann Sowell, Vice Chair

Danny Dean

Edd Goodman

William J. Kinard

Ronald E. Reynolds

William Solomon, Jr.

Terry Wright

Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION(S)

NATIONAL FARM CITY MONTH PROCLAMATION:

Ms. Victoria Tuten came before council and presented the National Farm City Month Proclamation. She updated council regarding the Farm City activities. Also present was Board Member, Paula Rhodes. **Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to approve the National Farm City Month Proclamation. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE(S)

There were no ordinance(s).

BID(S)

There were no bid(s).

COUNCIL'S BRIEFING(S)

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE (CHAIRMAN GRAY):

Chairman Gray gave his update. (See Attachment #1)

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COUNCIL'S DISCUSSION POINT(S):

There were no discussion point(s).

REPORTS TO COUNCIL

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Memorandum of Understanding - The Future of the Broader Yemassee, South Carolina Region

Administrator Graham stated that council is asked to endorse the concept of regional planning and collaboration in the Yemassee Region and agree to participate in a study and planning for the Yemassee region. **Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to endorse the regional concept and appoint Sandy Fowler, Hampton County Economic Development Director, as Hampton County's Representative and Sabrena Graham as an alternate representative with there being no obligation from Hampton County. Motion carried unanimously. (See Attachment #2)

Capital Projects Sales Tax Receipt Summary

Administrator Graham presented the Capital Projects Sales Tax Receipt Summary. She stated that 96% of the revenues have been collected. She stated that the tax should end in December 2009. Chairman Gray stated that the goal was reached early.

Special Meeting

Administrator Graham stated that the Economic Development Commission would like to meet with council at 5:00 p. m. on December 7, 2009 to discuss the Mega Park.

Hampton County Farmers' Market

Administrator Graham stated that there was a request for the Farmers' Market to come under the county. She stated that to be able to apply for grants, etc., they needed to come under a governmental agency or have 501(C)3 status. She stated that the Farmers' Market would not be a part of the county's budget. They would operate on grants, etc. She stated that the Farmers' Market could operate under the Recreation Department. **Moved** by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to accept the Farmers' Market as a Hampton County Agency. Motion carried unanimously.

Recognition of Elected Officials

Chairman Gray recognized Mayor Terry Wright, Town of Brunson and Sheriff T. C. Smalls, Hampton County.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

LEGAL MATTER:

Moved by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to go into executive session to discuss a legal matter. Motion carried unanimously. **Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to come out of executive session. Motion carried unanimously. After Coming out of executive session, Chairman Gray stated that council considered a request from Tommy Rhodes to close the Oak Grove Plantation Road. **Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, not to oppose the closing of the road. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

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