

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL'S MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY; JANUARY 20, 2015; 6:00 P. M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, HAMPTON COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER
200 JACKSON AVENUE, EAST, HAMPTON, SC**

Hampton County Council held its regular meeting on Monday, January 20, 2015, 6:00 p. m., Council Chambers, Hampton County Administrative Center, Hampton, South Carolina. Council Member(s) present: Christopher B. Haulsee;; Roy Hollingsworth, Vice Chairman; Charles H. "Buddy" Phillips, Isaac Smith and Shedron D. Williams, Chairman. Staff present: Rose D. Elliott, Administrator; Aline Newton, Clerk to Council and A. G. Solomons, Jr., County Attorney. Media present: The Hampton County Guardian. The meeting was advertised as prescribed by law.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Williams called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION:

Council Member Smith gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Haulsee.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Council Member Williams, seconded by Council Member Haulsee, to approve the Consent Agenda:

- 3.1.1 October 6, 2014 – January 5, 2015 County Council Meeting and Special Meeting Minutes

and the January 20, 2015 Hampton County Council Meeting Agenda with the following revisions: (1) Add Item #4.2, Public Hearing Close Out for Elliott Sawmilling Company Railroad Project, (2) Move 8.1 to 4.3 and (3) Move 8.2 to 8.1. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE HAMPTON COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT:

Chairman Williams opened the public hearing to receive public comments regarding the Hampton County Needs Assessment. Ms. Michelle Knight, Lowcountry Council of Governments Representative, came before council t. Knight and explained the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program She reported that the top needs that Hampton County listed last year in their needs assessment were Public Infrastructure, Public Safety, etc. Ms. Knight explained that Hampton County needed to identify the top need and prioritize the needs expressing the top three. Mr. Charlie Grant asked Ms. Knight if funding was available for historical renovations under the CDBG program. Mr. Grant expressed that he had discovered a Rosenwald School that was located in the Town of Gifford. He stated that the Arnold Fields Endowment was assisting with finding

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funding for renovation. Ms. Knight responded that there may be some funding. She explained for the project. There were other public comments. Chairman Williams closed the public hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE CLOSE OUT GRANT FOR ELLIOTT SAWMILL FOR RAILROAD SPUR:

Chairman Williams opened the public hearing to receive public comments regarding the Close Out Grant for Elliott Sawmill regarding the Railroad Spur. There were no comments. Chairman Williams closed the public hearing.

PRESENTATION(S)

MR. SCOTT ALLAN, FINANCIAL CONSULTANT FOR HAMPTON SCHOOL DISTRICT #2, REGARDING FINANCIAL UPDATE:

Mr. Scott Allan came before council and reported that cash balance is in good shape. He reported that the debt service mill was reduced by ten (10) mills. He stated that the mill levied for the debt service is not bringing in sufficient revenue to make the bond payment. He stated that District two will make two payments on March 31 and will be \$87,000 in the hole. He stated that they will have to transfer from the General fund. Mr. Allan reported that legally the mill levied should cover the debt service. He stated that Hampton School District 2 has a meeting with the Hampton County Treasurer to discuss this matter.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

LEGAL/CONTRACTUAL MATTER – DISCUSSION REGARDING THE WATER SYSTEM:

Moved by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to go into executive session to discuss a Legal/Contractual Matter – Discussion Regarding Lowcountry Regional Water System. Motion carried unanimously. **Moved** by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Smith, to come out of executive session.

REPORT OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Williams reported that he discussed a Legal/Contractual Matter regarding the Lowcountry Regional Water System. He stated that the Interim County Administrator, Mrs. Dobson-Elliott and the County Attorney, Mr. Solomons, will seek additional information regarding the Lowcountry Regional Water System.

PUBLIC COMMENT(S)

MR. JOSEPH ROBERTS, CITIZEN, CAME BEFORE COUNCIL REGARDING B & D DRIVE, LURAY, SOUTH CAROLINA:

Mr. Davis came before council regarding B & D Drive in Luray, South Carolina. He stated that the road was a road since 1985 and was in the county system. He stated that there are several houses back there and if someone needed EMS or Fire Department, they could not get to them because of the condition of the road. He stated that they were told that the road is no longer a county road.

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Ms. Dobson-Elliott will research to see if the road is public property and take care of the matter if the road is public property.

MS. JOANN GREEN, CITIZEN:

Ms. JoAnn Green came before council to request that they grant the easement to Palmetto Electric in order for Palmetto Electric to run electricity to her mobile home.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

See action under Consent Agenda.

PRESENTATION(S)

**MR. WILL SATEEBY, PALMETTO ELECTRIC REPRESENTATIVE, REGARDING
EASEMENT FOR STANLEY LOOP SUB-DIVISION:**

Mr. Sateeby came before council to explain why Palmetto Co-Op was installing overhead power lines instead of the underground power lines. He stated that overhead power lines are the standard method of policy for providing power to customers. He stated that the cost for projects in Hilton Head is being paid by Hilton Head. Vice Chairman Hollingsworth thanked Mr. Sateeby for his explanation and stated that he as satisfied with his explanation.

APPOINTMENT(S)

HAMPTON COUNTY FIRE BOARD:

Council voted by secret ballot to appoint Jody Hadwin to the Hampton County Fire Board.

RESOLUTION(S)

**RESOLUTION R2015-001, A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION 2912-991,
A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF THE
REPRESENTATIVE OF HAMPTON COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, TO SERVE
AS A COMMISSIONER ON THE GOVERNING COMMISSION OF THE
LOWCOUNTRY REGIONAL WATER SYSTEM AND OTHER MATTERS
RELATED THERETO:**

Moved by Council Member Haulsee to remove Hugh B. Gray as a representative on Lowcountry Regiona Water System. Council Member Haulsee withdrew his motion. **Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Haulsee, to table Resolution R2015-001, a resolution amending Resolution 2012-001, A resolution providing for the appointment of the Representative of Hampton County, South Carolina, to serve as a Commissioner on the governing Commission of the Lowcountry Regional Water System and other matters related thereto.. Motion carried unanimously.

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ORDINANCE(S)

ORDINANCE 2015-001, TO GRANT EASEMENT TO PALMETTO ELECTRIC FOR POWER LINE IN STANLEY LOOP SUB-DIVISION:

Moved by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Smith, to give third reading to Ordinance 2015-001, To Grant Easement to Palmetto Electric for Power Line in Stanley Loop Sub-Division. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE 2014-010, ORDINANCE TO TRANSFER PROPERTY AND INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE LOWCOUNTRY REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL PARK (LRIP) TO THE LOWCOUNTRY REGIONAL WATER SYSTER (LRWS):

Moved by Council Member Williams, seconded by Council Member Haulsee, to remove Ordinance 2014-010, Ordinance to Transfer Property and Infrastructure in the Lowcountry Regional Industrial Park (LRIP) to the Lowcountry Regional Water System (LRWS). Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE 2014-012, AMENDING THE ANIMAL ORDINANCE 2002:

Moved by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Williams, to give third reading to Ordinance 2014-012, Amending the Animal Ordinance 2002. Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION REGARDING RESCINDING THE FIRST READING TO THE HAMPTON COUNTY LAND USE DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE:

Council Member Hollingsworth stated that he attended two of the three public hearings held and has seen the public's response in opposition. Council Member Williams stated that he would like to see the Planning Commission to do an intensive review and see about rescinding and if passed start anew. **Moved** by Council Member Williams, seconded by Council Member Haulsee, to rescind first reading the Ordinance 2014-011, Hampton County Land Development Use Ordinance. Motion carried unanimously.

BID(S)

There were no bid(s).

COUNCIL'S BRIEFING(S)

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE:

Chairman Williams stated that he will be representing Hampton County in the MLK Parade and would like to hear from all the department heads for the retreat.

DISCUSSION POINTS (COUNCIL MEMBERS):

Council Member Haulsee

Council Member Haulsee stated that the family of John Jarrell has requested that his name be put on the All Wars Memorial Monument. It was stated that the war would have to be declared over by congress. The President declared that the war ended December 2014. Council Member Haulsee stated that he disagreed with having to wait five years for a name to be put on the monument.

Chairman Williams

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Council Member Hollingsworth requested that the county have an internal audit. The audit will show representation of wrong doings. Our new Administrator and members can move forward with assurance, because we have key people that have left like the Administrator, the Finance Director, Grants Writer, etc. Council Member Phillips wanted clarification on the time period for the audit. Council stated that they would like an internal audit for the six month period starting July 2014. Vice Chairman Hollingsworth stated that he had a question about the current auditor. He stated that the trainings that he has had; they state that you should not have the same auditor for over five (5) years. The reason for this is that there is no bias. By consensus, council decided to put out an RFP to get quotes on audit; solicit bids as per policy. Would like to have quotes in the next two months. **Moved** by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Vice Chairman Hollingsworth, to have an audit of all elected and appointed administrative offices. Motion carried unanimously.

Action Regarding Ms. Lynette Harley's Letter of Resignation as the Lowcountry Regional Transportation Authority (LRTA) Board Representative for Hampton County

Moved by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Smith, to accept letter of resignation from Ms. Lynette Harley, Lowcountry Regional Transportation Authority Board Representative for Hampton County. Motion carried unanimously.

Request from the Human Relations Council to Establish an Account

Moved by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Haulsee, to allow the Human Relations Council to establish an account through the county and check with the Finance Director regarding the procedures to establish. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORT(S) TO COUNCIL

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Miley Fire Station Update (Mr. Gregg Cook, Fire Chief)

Mr. Gregg Cook, County Fire Chief, came before council to update regarding the activities involving the construction of the Miley Fire Station. Mr. Cook informed council about the soil prep, establishment of power at the site for construction to begin and the acquisition of the easement from Mr. Rhodes. Mr. Cook stated the IP Builders have the building ready and the Fire Station should be completed by April 2015. He stated that once the building is completed and equipped, the ISO ratings will come down.

Retreat

Administrator Dobson-Elliott stated that council will hold its retreat on Friday January 30, 2015 at 12:00 noon in the Conference Room, Administrative Center.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Williams adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p. m.