

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL'S MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY; MAY 1, 2017; 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, May 1, 2017, 6:00 p. m., Council Chambers, Hampton County Administrative Center, Hampton, South Carolina. Council Member(s) present: Roy Hollingsworth, Chairman; Charles H. "Buddy" Phillips, Vice Chairman; Isaac Smith; Shedron D. Williams and Ronald G. "Breeze" Winn. Council Member(s) absent: None. Staff present: Rose Dobson-Elliott, Administrator; Aline Newton, Clerk to Council; A. G. Solomons, Jr., County Attorney. Media present: Hampton County Guardian. The meeting was advertised as prescribed by law.

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Hollingsworth 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. Dr. Hollingsworth recognized Dr. Wilcox, Superintendent, Hampton County School District #1, Dr. Gibbes, Palmetto Palace, Ms. Lawton, Citizen and Resource Officer and welcomed everyone.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**ADOPTION OF THE MAY 1, 2017 HAMPTON COUNTY AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Moved** by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Smith, to accept the Consent Agenda and the May 1, 2017 Hampton County Council Meeting Agenda with the adoption of the Item #6.1, April 3, 2017 Special and Regular Meeting Minutes and the addition of Item #10.3.4, An Ordinance Enlarging the Boundaries of Park III, Pursuant to the Amended and Restated Master Agreement for the Establishment of the Quad-County Industrial Park I, Park II, and Park III, as Amended; and Other Matters Related Thereto. Council Member Williams requested that Item #10.1.1, third reading to the ordinance regarding Southern Current – Project Curie be deferred until the process has been completed on the variance to rezone the property for the solar farm. Council Member Williams informed council that the property is not zoned for a solar farm and that is why the variance is on the agenda for first reading tonight. **Moved** by Council Member Williams, seconded by Council Member Winn, to table third and final reading to the ordinance regarding Southern Current – Project Curie. Council Members Williams and Winn voted in favor and Council Members Hollingsworth, Phillips and Smith voted against. Chairman Hollingsworth called for the vote on the adoption of the May 1, 2017 meeting agenda. Motion carried with Council Members Hollingsworth, Phillips and Smith voting in favor and Council Members Williams and Winn voting against.

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**PUBLIC HEARING(S)**

**PUBLIC HEARING TO REVIEW PROGRAM PERFORMANCE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS CONDUCTED UNDER A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROJECT KNOWN AS THE 2014 REGIONAL PLANNING GRANT, CDBG#4-RP-15-010, WHEREIN THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES WERE UNDERTAKEN: THE ACTIVITIES WERE DESIGNED TO ASSIST LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN DEVELOPING PLANS AND BUILDING PROJECT PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT CAPACITY. BY IMPLEMENTING THE ACTIVITIES, STAFF WILL BE ABLE TO EFFECTIVELY DETERMINE COMMUNITY NEEDS LONG-TERM GOALS AND SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES, AND DEVELOP PLANS FOR CARRYING OUT EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS COMMUNITY NEEDS:**

Chairman Hollingsworth opened the public hearing to receive public comments. Ms. Barbara Johnson, Lowcountry Council of Governments Representative, explained that the public hearing was to review program performance and accomplishments conducted under a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) project known as the 2014 Regional Planning Grant, CDBG #4-RP-15-010, wherein the following activities were undertaken: The activities were designed to assist local governments in developing plans and building project planning and management capacity. By implementing the activities, staff will be able to effectively determine community needs long-term goals and short-term objectives, and develop plans for carrying out effective strategies to address community needs. There were a few clarifications as to what the public hearing was about. Chairman Hollingsworth closed the public hearing.

**PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING AN APPLICATION JOINTLY WITH COLLETON, BEAUFORT AND JASPER COUNTIES TO BE SUBMITTED TO SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, DIVISION OF COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAMS ON OR ABOUT MAY 05, 2017, FOR A COMMUNITY BLOCK DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT. HAMPTON COUNTY IS REQUESTING \$50,000 TO CARRY OUT THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES: THE PROGRAM IS DESIGNED TO DEVELOP THE CAPACITY OF CDBG ADMINISTRATORS TO EFFECTIVELY DETERMINE COMMUNITY NEEDS, SET LONG-TERM GOALS AND SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES AND DEVELOP PLANS FOR CARRYING OUT EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS PRIORITY NEEDS. THE GRANT WILL BE USED TO PROVIDE CDBG PLANNING, CAPACITY BUILDING, PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS. THE FUNDS WILL ONLY BE USED IN THE STATE'S CDBG PROGRAM ELIGIBLE (NON-ENTITLEMENT) COMMUNITIES. THE TYPE OF SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED WILL ADDRESS AN ARRAY OF HOUSING, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEEDS:**

Chairman Hollingsworth opened the public hearing to receive public comments. Ms. Barbara Johnson, Lowcountry Council of Governments Representative, explained that the public hearing concerning an application jointly with Colleton, Beaufort and Jasper Counties to be submitted to South Carolina Department of Commerce, Division of Community Grant Programs

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on or about May 05, 2017, for a Community Block Development Block Grant. Hampton County is requesting \$50,000 to carry out the following activities:

- The program is designed to develop the capacity of CDBG Administrators to effectively determine community needs, set long-term goals and short-term objectives and develop plans for carrying out effective strategies to address priority needs. The grant will be used to provide CDBG planning, capacity building, project development and technical assistance to local governments. The funds will only be used in the state CDBG program eligible (non-entitlement) communities. The type of services to be provided will address an array of housing, community development and economic development needs.

There were a few clarifications as to what the public hearing was about. Chairman Hollingsworth closed the public hearing.

**SOUTHERN CURRENT – PROJECT CURIE:**

Chairman Hollingsworth opened the public hearing to receive public comments concerning Southern Current – Project Curie. Ms. Alyssa\_\_\_\_\_ came before council to present information about Southern Current – Project Curie. She commented that they hoped to be in operation by December 31<sup>st</sup>. She explained that it was a Community Energy Solar Program. There were several questions and comments from the public. Chairman Hollingsworth closed the public hearing.

**PUBLIC COMMENT(S)**

**DR. WILLIAMS SMALLS, CITIZEN:**

Dr. Smalls came before council regarding the Pocotaligo Road. He explained that the bridge is out and you have to travel around it. It is not just an inconvenience. He had to take a friend to the doctor to Beaufort Memorial and although, it was not an emergency, he had to travel approximately twenty miles around to get to the road to take him. Council Member Phillips explained to Dr. Smalls that at the LCOG meeting the other night, they discussed the matter and the board will get a report next month from the State. Also, Dr. Smalls stated that the At-Large system is archaic and should go to the adoption of district representation; it only takes 15% of the general population to change it.

**MR. JAMES FENNELL:**

Mr. Fennell stated that he had concern in the public hearing regarding the solar farm. The private company is coming in and assurance to buy at rate that is going and good. Mr. Fennell mad the comment that you can grow potatoes but that does not mean that you can sell. Chairman Hollingsworth stated that we have heard from Southern Current and leave it at that. Council Member Williams commented that he has not seen any paperwork from the environmental impact studies.

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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Moved** by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Smith, to approve the November April 3, 2017 Hampton County Council Special and Regular Meeting, April 17, 2017 Hampton County Council Meeting and the April 27, 2017 Hampton County Special Meeting Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

**PRESENTATION(S)**

**ESTILL HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM, 1A STATE CHAMPIONS:**

Chairman Hollingsworth informed everyone that the Estill High School Girls Basketball Team, 1A State Champions, was unable to make it but has scheduled to come to the May 15, 2017 meeting.

**MS. MORGAN REUIS, SOUTHERN CAROLINA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE, REGARDING UPDATE:**

Ms. Morgan Reuis, Southern Carolina Regional Development Alliance, Regarding Update, came before council to give the report and invite council to Southern Carolina's annual meeting on May 25, 2017 at 6:00 p. m. in Allendale, South Carolina at USC Salkehatchie.

**APPOINTMENT(S)**

**PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES THE HAMPTON COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL:**

Chairman Hollingsworth and council members presented certificates of appointment to the Hampton County Arts Council. Certificates were presented to: Ms. Faith Blumenstock, Treasurer; Mr. Dennis Page, Vice Chair; Ms. Tonya T. Robinson, Secretary; Ms. Nykki Smalls, and Ms. Annette Tuten, Chair

**RESOLUTION(S)/PROCLAMATION(S)**

There were no resolutions/proclamations.

**ORDINANCE(S)**

**SOUTHERN CURRENT – PROJECT CURIE:**

Chairman Hollingsworth stated that the ordinance regarding third reading Southern Current – Project Curie. Council Member Williams question the County Attorney as to why there was third reading to a project that first reading to the variance to rezone the area was on the table. He commented that the project needed to be tabled until the variance has gone through the process and passed. County Attorney Solomons stated that the matter is between the property owner and the Project Curie. Council Member Williams stated that the variance is asking that the property be changed from Agricultural Use to Industrial Use. **Moved** by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by

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Council Member Smith, to give third reading to Southern Current – Project Curie. Council Member Williams recused himself. Council Member Winn abstained. Motion carried with Council Members Hollingsworth, Phillips and Smith voting in favor.

**FIRST READING OF A VARIANCE TO THE HAMPTON COUNTY LAND USE ORDINANCE FOR A SOLAR FARM:**

**Moved** by Council Member Smith, seconded by Vice Chairman Phillips, to give first reading of a Variance to the Hampton County Land Use Ordinance for a Solar Farm. Motion carried with Council Members Hollingsworth, Phillips and Smith voted in favor and Council Members Williams and Winn voted against.

**FIRST READING BY TITLE ONLY TO THE ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR INFRASTRUCTURE OR SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDITS TO LOVE'S TRAVEL STOPS AND COUNTRY STORES, INC.; AUTHORISING AN INFRASTRUCTURE CREDIT AGREEMENT BETWEEN HAMPTON COUNTY AND LOVE'S TRAVEL STOPS & COUNTRY STORES, INC.; PROVIDING FOR THE ALLOCATION OF FEES-IN-LIEU OF TAXES PAYABLE UNDER THE AMENDED AND RESTATED MASTER AGREEMENT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE QUAD-COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK I, PARK II AND PARK III, BY AND AMONG HAMPTON COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, AND BARNWELL COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO:**

**Moved** by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Smith, to give First Reading by Title Only to the Ordinance Providing for Infrastructure or Special Source Revenue Credits to Love's Travel Stops & Country Stores, Inc.; Authorising an Infrastructure Credit Agreement Between Hampton County and Love's Travel Stops & Country Stores, Inc.; Providing for the Allocation of Fees-In-Lieu of Taxes Payable Under the Amended and Restated Master Agreement for the Establishment of the Quad-County Industrial Park I, Park II and Park III, By and Among Hampton County, South Carolina, and Barnwell County, South Carolina; and Other Matters Relating Thereto. Motion carried unanimously.

**TO FURTHER AMEND THE AMENDED AND RESTATED MASTER AGREEMENT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE QUAD-COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK I, PARK II, AND PARK III, BY AND AMONG HAMPTON COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, ALLENDALE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, BAMBERG COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA AND BARNWELL COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, PROVIDING FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A JOINTLY OWNED AND OPERATED INDUSTRIAL PARK SO AS TO INCLUDE ADDITIONAL PROPERTY IN HAMPTON COUNTY IN HAMPTON COUNTY AS PART OF THE QUAD COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK:**

**Moved** by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Smith, to give first reading to the ordinance To Further Amend the Amended and Restated Master Agreement for the Establishment of the Quad-County Industrial Park I, Park II, and Park III, By and Among Hampton County, South Carolina, Allendale County, South Carolina, Bamberg County, South Carolina, and Barnwell County, South Carolina, Providing for the Development of a Jointly Owned and Operated Industrial Park, So as to Include Additional Property in Hampton County in Hampton County as Part of the Quad County Industrial . Motion carried with Council Members Hollingsworth, Phillips and Smith voted in favor and Council Members Williams and Winn did not vote.

**AN ORDINANCE ENLARGING THE BOUNDARIES OF PARK III, PURSUANT TO THE**

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**AMENDED AND RESTATED MASTER AGREEMENT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT  
OF THE QUAD-COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK I, PARK II, AND PARK III, AS  
AMENDED; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO:**

**Moved** by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Smith, to give first reading to An Ordinance Enlarging the Boundaries of Park III, Pursuant to the Amended and Restated Master Agreement for the Establishment of the Quad-County Industrial Park I, Park II, and Park III, as Amended; and Other Matters Related Thereto. Motion carried with Council Members Hollingsworth, Phillips and Smith voted in favor and Council Members Williams and Winn did not vote.

**BID(S)**

There were no bid(s).

**COUNCIL'S BRIEFING(S)**

**CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE:**

Chairman Hollingsworth reported that:

**DISCUSSION POINTS (COUNCIL MEMBERS):**

**Council Member Smith**

Council Member Smith reported that there is a Solar Farm by his house (Council Member Williams stated that this was the Town of Hampton Solar Project). He continued that he did not know what will be fifty years from now but no outgoing emissions. Council Member Smith also informed that public that the Sheriff's Department is doing their job; he presented the notifications that are left in the church doors to show that the sheriff's department is doing the security check at churches.

**Vice Chairman Phillips**

Vice Chairman Phillips stated that he had no report but agreed with Council Member Smith's comments.

**Council Member Williams**

Council Member Williams inquired as to why there were 5:00 p. m. or meetings at 3:00 p. m. He informed council that he requested a code for the special meeting that was held. He stated that he text to the Chair as well as the Administrator asking for the code to participate in the meeting. Chairman Hollingsworth informed Council Member Williams that the meeting was an executive Session. If council wanted to participate in the meeting, they were to be present at the location. Council Member Williams stated that he worked but there were meeting on Thursday, Friday and Monday prior to 6:00 p. m.; the public is wondering what council is doing. Council Member Williams stated that he would like to remind council what Vice Chairman Charles Phillips said once, "Not only does things have to be right, but need to look right." Chairman Hollingsworth informed Council Member Williams that he made the decision not to provide a code. Council Member Williams asked if the Department of Revenue Representatives and Attorneys the who met with council in executive session called in or were they present? Chairman Hollingsworth commented that he could control them.

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**Council Member Winn**

Council Member Winn wanted to know about L&L Trailer Park. Chairman Hollingsworth informed Council Member Winn that this was between the Town of Hampton and the Lowcountry Regional Water Authority (LRWA). Council Member Winn also commented that there needs to be a concentrated effort for an Internal Audit with specialized service.

**RECONSIDERATION OF THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED AUDIT:**

**Moved** by Council Member Williams, seconded by Council Member Winn, for reconsideration of the acceptance of the previously approved audit. Council Members Williams and Winn voted in favor and Council Members Hollingsworth, Phillips and Smith voted against. Motion failed.

**RECONSIDERATION OF THE REQUEST FOR COMPANY TWO CONTINUOUS USE OF THE HAMPTON AIRPORT:**

**Moved** by Council Member Williams, seconded by Council Member Winn, for reconsideration of the request for Company Two continuous use of the Hampton Airport. Council Members Williams and Winn voted in favor and Council Members Hollingsworth, Phillips and Smith voted against. Motion failed.

**COUNTY ATTORNEY'S UPDATE:**

County Attorney Solomons stated that he will defer legal matters until executive session. He stated that he received a formal letter from Clemson regarding the Aquaculture Property. He commented that the matter on the Coroner issue is that the coroner can file and appeal; the court changed the date for filing.

**CLERK TO COUNCIL'S UPDATE:**

The Clerk to Council informed council that the Arts Council met and have chosen officers. She informed council that scheduling a meeting next week for the Council on Aging is next.

**REPORT(S) TO COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**LEGAL MATTER REGARDING THE HAMPTON COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL; LEGAL UPDATE REGARDING ADMINISTRATOR'S MONTHLY REPORT; ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECT UPDATES:**

**Moved** by Council Member Smith, seconded by Vice Chairman Phillips, to go into executive session to discuss Legal Matter regarding the Hampton County Arts Council, Legal Update regarding the Administrator's Monthly Report and Economic Development Project Updates. Motion carried unanimously.

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**REPORT OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**LEGAL MATTER REGARDING THE HAMPTON COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL; LEGAL UPDATE REGARDING ADMINISTRATOR'S MONTHLY REPORT; ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECT UPDATES:**

**Moved** by Council Member Smith, seconded by Vice Chairman Phillips, to come out of executive session concerning a Legal Matter regarding the Hampton County Arts Council, a Legal Update regarding the Administrator's Monthly Report and Economic Development Project Updates. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hollingsworth reported that council discussed legal matter with the Hampton County Arts Council and got information on other legal matters.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved** by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Smith, to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hollingsworth adjourned the meeting.