

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY; AUGUST 28, 2023; 6:00 PM
HAMPTON COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER
200 JACKSON AVENUE, EAST, HAMPTON, SOUTH CAROLINA**

Hampton County Council held a special meeting on Monday, August 28, 2023, 6:00 p. m. Council Member(s) present: Noah O. Alexander, Chairman; Darin Williams, Vice Chairman; Roy Hollingsworth; Jordan J. “JJ” Jinks and Camille M. Welch. Council Member(s) absent: None. Staff present: Heather Simmons Jones, Interim County Administrator, Aline Newton, Clerk to Council and A. G. Solomons, Jr., County Attorney. Staff absent: None. Wilson Holland, Hampton County IT was present. The meeting was advertised as prescribed by law.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Alexander called the meeting to order at 6:00 p. m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION:

Council Member Welch gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Jinks.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

ADOPTION OF THE AUGUST 28, 2023 HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA (6:00 PM):

Chairman Alexander asked for the approval of the agenda. **Moved** by Vice Chairman Williams to approve the agenda with an amended motion to defer Items 7.1, 7.2, 10.1, 10.3, 11.1 and 11.3. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

THIRD READING TO 2023-010, AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF A TAX ANTICIPATION BORROWING OF HAMPTON COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, IN A PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT EXCEEDING \$2,500,000, IN ANTICIPATION OF THE COLLECTION OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2023 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2024; TO PRESCRIBE THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SUCH BORROWING AND THE FORM OF NOTE TO BE EXECUTED EVIDENCING THE SAME; TO MAKE PROVISION FOR THE PAYMENT THEREOF; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO:

Chairman Alexander opened the public hearing to receive public comment regarding third reading to 2023-010, An Ordinance to Provide for the Issuance and Sale of a Tax Anticipation Borrowing of Hampton County, South Carolina, In a Principal Amount Not Exceeding

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY; AUGUST 28, 2023; 6:00 PM
HAMPTON COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER
200 JACKSON AVENUE, EAST, HAMPTON, SOUTH CAROLINA**

\$2,500,000, In Anticipation of Ad Valorem Taxes for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2023 and Ending June 30, 2024; To Prescribe the Terms and Conditions of Such Borrowing and The Form of Note to be Executed Evidencing the Same; To Make Provision for the Payment Thereof; And Other Matters Relating Thereto. There was no public comment. Chairman Alexander closed the public hearing.

PUBLIC COMMENT(S)

LARRY HUFFMAN, ESTILL AREA:

Larry Huffman came before council to comment that it is amazing how the sheriff is operating – canine department – begging for dog food and a place to keep them. He also mentioned a fund raiser that was held to help with the canine department.

CARRIE:

Carrie commented on the leadership and transparency. Council voted to talk about MRB behind closed doors. This should be brought before the county.

BARBARA GRAY:

Barbara Gray commented that the county is in bad shape. Need to try and get working and profitable jobs here. MRB is worth the money – find out where the money went and bat money back where it is supposed to be and prosecute those who are responsible.

LINDA KELLY, MRB:

Linda Kelly came before council to ask that they not get rid of MRB and continue until the job is done.

ORDINANCE(S)

THIRD READING TO 2023-010, AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF A TAX ANTICIPATION BORROWING OF HAMPTON COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, IN A PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT EXCEEDING \$2,500,000, IN ANTICIPATION OF THE COLLECTION OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2023 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2024; TO PRESCRIBE THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SUCH BORROWING AND THE FORM OF NOTE TO BE EXECUTED EVIDENCING THE SAME; TO MAKE PROVISION FOR THE PAYMENT THEREOF; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO:

Sara Weather of Pope Flynn came before council and informed council regarding the TAN (Tax Anticipation Note). The TAN sets the authority and issuance by ordinance. It is a short term loan that will be set up as a draw down for operational shortfalls. The TAN is to be paid back in 90 (ninety) days of taxes collected. The TAN is to be paid by April 10, 2024. **Moved** by Council Member Jinks, seconded by Vice Chairman Williams, to give third reading to 2023-010,

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY; AUGUST 28, 2023; 6:00 PM
HAMPTON COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER
200 JACKSON AVENUE, EAST, HAMPTON, SOUTH CAROLINA**

An Ordinance to Provide for the Issuance and Sale of a Tax Anticipation Borrowing of Hampton County, South Carolina, In a Principal Amount Not Exceeding \$2,500,000, In Anticipation of Ad Valorem Taxes for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2023 and Ending June 30, 2024; To Prescribe the Terms and Conditions of Such Borrowing and The Form of Note to be Executed Evidencing the Same; To Make Provision for the Payment Thereof; And Other Matters Relating Thereto. Motion carried unanimously.

ACTION TO RECESS TO SIGN TAN DOCUMENTS:

Moved by Vice Chairman Williams, seconded by Council Member Jinks, to take a 5 minute recess to sign TAN (Tax Anticipation Note) documents. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Vice Chairman Williams, seconded by Council Member Jinks, to enter back into regular session. Motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES

The minutes were deferred.

RESOLUTION(S)

RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE SALE OF THE PROPERTY IN VARNVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA TO LURAY PEANUTCOMPANY:

Moved by Council Member Jinks, seconded by Vice Chairman Williams, to adopt Item 8.1, R2023-021, Resolution Confirming the Sale of the Property in Varnville, South Carolina to Luray Peanut Company. Motion carried unanimously.

COUNCIL BRIEFING(S)

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING COUNTY CELL PHONES FOR COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Chairman Alexander commented that a few council members would like to be given county phones to handle county business. Council Member Jinks expressed his need for a county phone, and Vice Chairman Williams expressed his need for a county phone. Council Member Hollingsworth informed council that he did not need a county phone. Susanne Peeples provided the cost for the county phone at \$39.95 per month with AT&T. **Moved** by Council Member Jinks, seconded by Vice Chairman Williams, to approve county council to be issued county cell phones if they so desire. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

PERSONNEL MATTER REGARDING ANIMAL CONTROL STAFF:

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY; AUGUST 28, 2023; 6:00 PM
HAMPTON COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER
200 JACKSON AVENUE, EAST, HAMPTON, SOUTH CAROLINA**

Moved by Council Member Welch, seconded by Council Member Jinks, to enter into executive session concerning Personnel Matter Regarding Animal Control Staff. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORT OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

PERSONNEL MATTER REGARDING ANIMAL CONTROL STAFF:

Moved by Council Member Jinks, seconded by Vice Chairman Williams, to come out of executive session concerning Personnel Matter Regarding Animal Control Staff. Motion carried unanimously.

Animal Control Staff

Moved by Council Member Jinks, seconded by Vice Chairman Williams for the Animal Control staff with transition going to sheriff and increase in sheriff's budget for salary and benefits. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Council Member Jinks, seconded by Council Member Welch, to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Alexander adjourned the meeting.