

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY; FEBRUARY 7, 2005; 6:00 P. M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, B. T. DeLOACH BUILDING, HAMPTON, SC**

Hampton County Council held a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, February 7, 2005, 6:00 p. m., Council Chambers, B. T. DeLoach Building, Hampton, South Carolina. Council Member(s) present: Lisa Ball; Lee S. Bowers; Virgin Johnson, Sr., Margaret S. Parker, Chairman and Willard E. Wilson, Vice Chairman. Staff present: Sabrena Posey, Administrator; Aline Newton, Clerk to Council and A. G. Solomons, Jr., County Attorney. The news media was notified as prescribed by law.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Parker called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION:

Pastor Kevin Byrd, County Chaplain, gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Parker.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

**MS. VICTORIA THOMPSON, PEOPLE TO PEOPLE, MADE A REQUEST FOR A
DONATION TO ATTEND THE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE:**

Ms. Victoria Thompson came before Council and asked for a monetary donation for her to attend the People to People Leadership training. Chairman Parker stated that she would leave it up to Council but in the past, Council Members donated on a personal level. Council stated that they would donate if they so desired on a personal level. Chairman Parker asked Ms. Thompson to leave her name and address for the council members who wanted to send Ms. Thompson a donation.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

ADOPTION OF FEBRUARY 7, 2005 COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA:

Chairman Parker stated that a request from Ms. Sowell of the Historical Society regarding a project for a pictorial history of Hampton County be put under Presentations; under Reports Mr. Jim Daniel regarding Lowcountry Regional Industrial Park ditch cleaning (13.3.2) and Capital Projects Coordinator (13.4.3); deletion of item 14.3, contractual matter regarding Nevamar; addition of a contractual matter regarding the library (14.5) and addition of the summary of accomplishments (13.4.4). **Moved** by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Ball, to adopt the agenda with the revisions. Motion carried unanimously.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

JANUARY 18, 2004 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

Chairman Parker asked Council if there were any additions or corrections. There were none. Chairman Parker stated that the minutes were approved as received.

PRESENTATIONS

Ms. Mary Ann Sowell, Hampton County Historical Society, came before Council and asked Council to support the project regarding a Pictorial History of Hampton County that would be done by Rita Williams Livingston. Ms. Sowell stated that Ms. Livingston would be working with the Historical Society to do this project. Ms. Sowell stated that the Hampton County Historical Society could recommend the book to businesses as a part of a presentation packet if it was endorsed by the County Council. Ms. Sowell stated that with council's support, the Historical Society could go to businesses, etc. **Moved** by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to give the letter of support to the Hampton County Historical Society regarding the pictorial history of Hampton County project. Motion carried unanimously.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

There were no appointments.

RESOLUTIONS

There were no resolutions.

ORDINANCES

THIRD (3rd) AND FINAL READING TO ORDINANCE #2004-004 - ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AND DELIVERY OF A FEE IN LIEU OF TAX AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN HAMPTON COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA AND NEVAMAR COMPANY, LLC

Chairman Parker stated that this matter was deferred.

THIRD (3rd) AND FINAL READING TO ORDINANCE #2004-006, ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HAMPTON COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER AND DUTIES:

Chairman Parker stated that this matter was referred to the Emergency Services Committee. She stated that the Emergency Services Committee will meet tomorrow, February 8, 2005 at 6:00 p. m.

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SECOND (2nd) READING TO ORDINANCE #2004-012, PUBLIC NUISANCES AND UNFIT DWELLINGS ORDINANCE:

Chairman Parker stated that a public hearing had to be held on the Ordinance. **Moved** by Council Member Ball, seconded by Council Member Bowers, to hold a public hearing on Ordinance #2004-012, Public Nuisances and Unfit Dwelling Ordinance. Motion carried unanimously.

BIDS

Mr. Lee Ellis, Chairman, Airport Commission, came before Council to request approval of funding for the cost of (1) cutting trees at the airport, (2) restoring landscape on property after cutting and the grinding of stumps. **Moved** by Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Bowers, to pay for the cutting of the trees and fixing yards up to \$11,550 (eleven thousand five hundred fifty dollars) and to resale the trees cut if possible. Chairman Parker asked what was next with the airport. Mr. Ellis stated that they have some other trees that need to be cut to clear the air space. Council Member Ball asked Mr. Ellis how far out were they going. Mr. Ellis stated that the Commission is still going by the plan that the Aeronautics Commission approved. He stated that when trees grow and are in the air space, they have to be topped. He stated that if a tree is not grandfathered in, then they can top them. He stated that the commission is working with the National Guard, because there are some trees that have to be removed from that property. Mr. Ellis stated that the National Guard ordered a survey in October, and the local National Guard have not yet received the survey. Council Member Johnson asked Mr. Ellis, how close was the nearest residents. Mr. Ellis stated that the closest resident was 200 feet. Council Member Johnson stated that this was too close to residents. Mr. Ellis stated that they were not talking about displacing people, etc. Motion carried. Council thanked Mr. Ellis for his report.

COUNCIL'S BRIEFING

COUNCIL'S WORKSHOP:

Administrator Posey wanted to know if council wanted to have the March 4 & 5th workshop at a location in or out of the County. Council Member Bowers stated that he would prefer that it be in Hampton County. Administrator Posey will check to see what location is available in Estill, if possible.

RESCHEDULING OF MEETING:

Council decided to reschedule their next meeting on Monday, February 28, 2005. The next meeting would fall on a holiday and several Council Members would be attending the South Carolina Association of Counties' Mid-Year Conference on February 22-23, 2005.

REPORTS TO COUNCIL

MR. CHRIS BICKLEY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, LOWCOUNTRY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS, REGARDING INFORMATION CONCERNING AFFORDABLE HOUSING:

Mr. Bickley came before Council to give a presentation and to make a request for a letter of support from Council expressing their interest in establishing a Lowcountry Regional HOME Consortium made up of local governments in Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton and Jasper Counties. Mr. Bickley

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stated that LCOG would like to prepare such an application to HUD. He stated that the County would understand that local matching funds may be required and that a final commitment would not be made until the application package is submitted in June 2005. **Moved** by Council Member Bowers, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to approve the letter of support for LCOG expressing Hampton County's interest in establishing a Lowcountry Regional HOME Consortium which would be made up of local governments in Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton and Jasper Counties, and Hampton County would like LCOG to prepare such an application to HUD with the understanding that local matching funds may be required and that a final commitment would not be made until the application package is submitted in June 2005. Motion carried unanimously. (See attachment #1 presentation material). Mr. Bickley stated that he will know dollar amounts in April.

MR. WALT INABINET, SOUTHERN CAROLINA ALLIANCE (SCA), REGARDING SCA'S JANUARY 2005 ACTIVITY REPORT:

Mr. Walt Inabinet came before Council to give the activity report for Southern Carolina Alliance. (See attachment #2 - activity report). Council thanked Mr. Inabinet.

MR. JIM DANIEL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION, REGARDING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY:

Mr. Daniel came before Council to give economic development activity report. (See attachment #3 - Hampton County Economic Development Activity Report). Council thanked Mr. Daniel.

LOWCOUNTRY REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL PARK DITCH CLEANING REQUEST:

Mr. Daniel came before Council and made a request on behalf of the South Carolina Department of Transportation. He stated that they would like Council to approve a request for them to clean out a ditch as necessary on the county's property at the Lowcountry Regional Industrial Park. **Moved** by Council Member Bowers, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to grant permission to the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) to clean and maintain ditch. Motion carried unanimously.

AGREEMENT FOR USE OF REAL PROPERTY FOR SIGN FOR LOWCOUNTRY REVOLUTIONARY WAR TRAIL:

Administrator Posey stated that there was a request from Ms. Ginnie Kozak with Lowcountry Council of Governments on behalf of the Revolutionary War Trail Foundation. She stated that the Revolutionary War Trail Foundation was requesting permission to erect a narrative sign at the Salkehatchie River Boat Landing site. Administrator Posey stated that the sign will be erected and maintained by the Foundation at no cost to the County. She stated that a two year agreement is provided for approval. **Moved** by Council Member Bowers, seconded by Council Member Ball, to approve the erection of Revolutionary Ward Trail sign on county property as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

HAMPTON COUNTY ROAD INDEX:

Mr. Blake Hodge, Public Works Director, came before Council and presented a list of the county roads. (See attachment #4 - Hampton County Road Index). Mr. Hodge stated that he plans to expand the index by adding the map number and the length of the road. He stated that the Private

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Road Policy and Private Road Building Policy will be presented together. Mr. Hodge stated that he wanted to publically thank his road crew. He stated that they are doing a great job.

RECOGNITION OF MS. SUSAN CHAPMAN, SENATOR LINDSEY GRAHAM'S OFFICE:
Chairman Parker recognized Ms. Susan Chapman of Senator Lindsey Graham's office. She stated that she was making her rounds with Mr. Bickley. Ms. Chapman stated that she was glad to hearing that the county was involved in regionalism, because that is Senator's Graham's middle name. Chairman Parker thanked Mr. Chapman for coming and invited Ms. Chapman to come back.

CAPITAL PROJECTS COORDINATOR:

Administrator Posey stated that she would like to advertise for the Capital Projects Coordinator. She stated that Council has a copy of the job description. Council Member Ball asked if she wanted to run the ad. Administrator Posey stated that she would like to run the ad and hire the individual. Chairman Parker stated that it did not say part-time. Administrator Posey stated that the work hours will be varied. Chairman Parker stated that it would be a part-time position per say. Council had no objections to running the advertisement for the Capital Projects Coordinator.

SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Administrator Posey presented Council with a summary of accomplishments. (See attachment #5 - Summary of Accomplishments). Administrator Posey stated that she had the department heads give a brief discussion of what they did and have accomplished in their departments. She stated that she did this to educate herself as well as council. Council thanked Administrator Posey.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE SESSION REGARDING A PERSONNEL MATTER (DETENTION CENTER) AND CONTRACTUAL MATTERS CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES (DSS) PROJECT, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, THE LIBRARY AND THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT:

Moved by Council Member Bowers, seconded by Council Member Ball, to go into executive session to discuss a personnel matter regarding the detention center, contractual matters regarding the Department of Social Services (DSS), economic development updates, the library and the sheriff's department. Motion carried. Council convened into executive session. The session began at 7:35 p. m. and ended 8:10 p. m. **Moved** by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to come out of executive session. Motion carried. **After coming out of Executive Session**, Chairman Parker stated that:

- a personnel matter regarding the detention center was discussed; Council received an update from the Administrator.
- a contractual matter regarding DSS was discussed; Council gave direction to the Administrator.
- a contractual matter regarding the economic development updates regarding prospects and an update regarding alliance were discussed.
- a contractual matter regarding the library was discussed, and Council gave direction to the Administrator to bring back information.

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- a contractual matter regarding the sheriff's department was discussed; Council gave direction to the Administrator to bring back information.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Johnson to adjourn. Chairman Parker adjourned the meeting at 8:12 p. m.