

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY; MAY 4, 2020; 6:00 P. M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, HAMPTON COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER
200 JACKSON AVENUE, EAST, HAMPTON, SC**

Hampton County Council held its regularly scheduled meeting virtually on Monday, May 4, 2020, 6:00 p. m., Council Chambers, Hampton County Administrative Center, Hampton, South Carolina. Council Member(s) present: Clay Bishop, Chairman; Charles H. "Buddy" Phillips, Vice Chairman; Roy Hollingsworth, Ronald G. "Breeze" Winn, and Darin Williams. Council Member(s) absent: None. Staff present: Rose Dobson-Elliott, Administrator and Aline Newton, Clerk to Council and A. G. Solomons, Jr., County Attorney. Staff absent: None. Wilson Holland, Hampton County Information Technology Director and Brantley Strickland, Hampton County Project Manager, SouthernCarolina Alliance, were present. Media present: None. The meeting was advertised as prescribed by law.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Bishop called the virtual meeting to order.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION:

Council Member Hollingsworth gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Williams.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

ADOPTION OF THE MAY 4, 2020 HAMPTON COUNTY VIRTUAL MEETING

AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA:

Moved by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Hollingsworth, to approve the May 4, 2020 Hampton County Council Meeting agenda and consent agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Members' votes:

Roy Hollingsworth – Yes

Darin Williams – Yes

Charles H. "Buddy" Phillips – Yes

Ronald Winn - Yes

Clay Bishop – Yes

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

**THIRD READING TO THE ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND
DELIVERY OF A FEE AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN HAMPTON COUNTY,
SOUTH CAROLINA AND PROJECT TURQUOISE PROVIDING FOR A PAYMENT OF
A FEE IN LIEU OF TAXES AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO:**

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Chairman Bishop opened the public hearing to receive comments regarding the Ordinance Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of a Fee Agreement by and Between Hampton County, South Carolina and Project Turquoise Providing for a Payment of a Fee In Lieu of Taxes and Other Matters Related Thereto. Mr. Brantley Strickland, Hampton County Project Manager, SouthernCarolina Alliance explained that the ordinance had been presented to council for two readings and had been passed unanimously and would be glad to answer any questions. Chairman Bishop stated that the public was to provide written comments. There were no public comments. Chairman Bishop closed the public hearing.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Bishop read the following that was listed on agenda for public comments: Due to the COVID-19 Threat, public comments will be accepted in writing via email to the Clerk to Council at anewton@hamptoncountysc.org (Please place in the subject line Public Comments 04/20/2020) or mail to the Hampton County Council's Office at 200 Jackson Ave., E., Hampton, SC 29924. All comments must be received by noon on Monday, April 20, 2020, and will be presented to Council at the meeting. Public comment guidelines will apply. Chairman Bishop commented that there were no public comments received.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**APRIL 17, 2020 HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL VIRTUAL SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES:**

Chairman Bishop asked for a motion to approve the minutes. **Moved** by Council Member Hollingsworth, seconded by Council Member Williams, to approve the April 17, 2020 Hampton County Council Virtual Special Meeting Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Members' votes:

Ronald Winn - Yes

Roy Hollingsworth - Yes

Darin Williams – Yes

Charles H. “Buddy” Phillips - Yes

Clay Bishop – Aye

**APRIL 20, 2020 HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL VIRTUAL SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES:**

Chairman Bishop asked for a motion to approve the minutes. **Moved** by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Hollingsworth, to approve the April 20, 2020 Hampton County Council Virtual Meeting Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Members' votes:

Roy Hollingsworth - Yes

Ronald Winn - Yes

Darin Williams – Yes

Charles H. “Buddy” Phillips - Yes

Clay Bishop – Yes

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APRIL 20, 2020 HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES:

Chairman Bishop asked for a motion to approve the minutes. **Moved** by Council Member Williams, seconded by Council Member Hollingsworth, to approve the April 20, 2020 Hampton County Council Virtual Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Members' votes:

Roy Hollingsworth - Yes
Ronald Winn - Yes
Darin Williams – Yes
Charles H. “Buddy” Phillips - Yes
Clay Bishop – Yes

PRESENTATION(S)

MR. CHARLES DIGGLE, JR., PARTNERSHIP SPECIALIST – SOUTH CAROLINA, UNITED STATES CENSUS BUREAU, REGARDING CENSUS UPDATE:

Mr. Diggle, Partnership Specialist – South Carolina, United States Census Bureau, reminded citizens and council about the 2020 census. See Below:

Residents of Hampton County and surrounding areas are reminded that the 2020 Census is still ongoing. Because of the COVID-19 lockdown, some residents, particularly those who receive mail in PO boxes, may have not received a notice from the U.S. Census Bureau yet. However, ANY household can fill out their short, easy and secure Census information by visiting www.2020Census.gov or by calling 844-330-2020.

It only takes a few minutes and it contributes so much to the county. Responses to the 2020 Census shape decisions about how billions of dollars in federal funds for critical services flow into communities like ours each year for the next 10 years. These services include healthcare, emergency response, school and education programs, roads and bridges and so much more.

The current pandemic and the recent storms in our county underscore the importance of census data and census participation. Now, more than ever, your response to the 2020 Census matters. Respond today and make sure your family, friends and neighbors respond as well.

Again, visit www.2020Census.gov or call 844-330-2020. Let's make sure everyone in Hampton County is counted!

Mr. Diggle also updated council on the percentages of the towns' responses to the census.

Chairman Bishop thanked Mr. Diggle for his presentation.

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APPOINTMENT(S)

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL'S HAMPTON REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
(HRMC) BOARD RECOMMENDATION:**

Council voted by ballot to recommend Thomas E. Watson as Hampton County Council's recommendation for the Hampton Regional Medical Center (HRMC) Board.

RESOLUTION(S)/PROCLAMATION(S)

There were no resolution(s)/proclamation(s).

ORDINANCE(S)

**THIRD READING TO THE ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND
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SOUTH CAROLINA AND PROJECT TURQUOISE PROVIDING FOR A PAYMENT OF
A FEE IN LIEU OF TAXES AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO:**

Mr. Strickland, Hampton County Project Manager, SouthernCarolina Alliance, commented that he had nothing further to add but would ask for adoption of the ordinance. **Moved** by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Williams, to give third reading to the Ordinance Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of a Fee Agreement by and Between Hampton County, South Carolina and Project Turquoise Providing for a Payment of a Fee In Lieu of Taxes and Other Matters Related Thereto. Council Member Winn asked what the payments would be to the county. Mr. Strickland, Hampton County Project Manager, SouthernCarolina Alliance, explained that he would be glad to share that with council via email. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Members' votes:

Roy Hollingsworth – Yes
Darin Williams – Yes
Charles H. “Buddy” Phillips – Yes
Ronald Winn - Yes
Clay Bishop – Yes

SECOND READING TO THE HAMPTON COUNTY 2020-2021 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET:
Moved by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Hollingsworth, to approve the second reading to the Hampton County 2020-2021 Fiscal Year Budget. Motion carried.

Council Members' votes:

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Ronald Winn - No
Clay Bishop – Yes

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BID(S)

There were no bid(s).

COUNCIL BRIEFING(S)

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE:

Chairman Bishop commented that he received this from Ms. Shannon Parker regarding graduates. He read the following:

As many know, our Graduating Seniors will not be able to have a traditional graduating ceremony and due to Covid 19, our students have missed out on some of their best moments in their young lives. After speaking with County Officials, District leaders, and the gracious blessing from our wonderful Clerk of Court Mrs Melinda Nettles, we will display yard signs of our Seniors around the Courthouse grounds for all to see. This opportunity will be offered to Wade Hampton, Estill High and Patrick Henry. We realize that some schools may have already done something at their schools and we understand. If any of the schools would like to participate, we welcome everyone. This is #HAMPTONCOUNTYSTRONG. Below is the information.

We will be partnering with Ink farm Shirts and Signs out of Walterboro in making yard signs to display around the Hampton County Court House. The owner, Hunter, has offered a double sided, picture included, with your choice of saying for \$10. Each parent will be responsible for ordering their Senior a sign with the given information. The deadline to order a sign will be May 18th. This will ensure that Hunter has enough time to make all signs by May 31st. My self and other volunteers will then put the Senior signs around the Courthouse. The signs will remain up till June 8th. Each parent will be responsible in picking up their sign from the court yard. After the 8th of June I will be collecting the signs and you have to contact me to retrieve your sign. Any sign not claimed by June 12th will be disposed of. Attached to this will be a flyer with Hunter's information and ordering information on there. Please follow the steps to order your sign. After you order if you will send me a message, text or email so that I can put you on the list and be sure that your sign is picked up.

Again, parents will have the information to order the sign and give there child's information. Each parent will be responsible for ordering and paying. There will be no monies exchanged through me and this will not be a fundraiser. It will simply be an individual order. Myself and those that wish to help will only be responsible for putting them out that night before June 1st, and responsible for picking up any that is left after June 8th.

We do ask parents not to tear up or alter the court grounds if wanting to take pics of the signs with the students and to use social distancing if doing so. Please respect each Seniors sign as well as the grounds.

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Each school will send out a reminder to all seniors in order for them to participate and we will make it public on fb.

If by chance anyone does not have internet capability to order the sign or if any student or families are unable to afford a sign, please get in touch with me privately so that we can make arrangements in order ensure every Senior has the opportunity to have a sign on the Courthouse grounds.

If you have any questions, you can contact Shannon Parker at 803-942-1757. You can also reach me on Facebook.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S UPDATE:

The County Attorney had no update; he reminded everyone that the court was shut down.

CLERK'S UPDATE:

The Clerk reminded everyone to complete the census at 2020census.org.

REPORT(S) TO COUNCIL

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Administrator Dobson-Elliott reported that the TAN was repaid on March 31, 2020, Check #19193. She explained that she did not have time to put together the other information. Ms. Suzanne Peeples gave update on COVID-19 and reported that Hampton County got the declaration for disaster from the State regarding the tornado. Administrator Dobson Elliott gave personnel update.

Council Member Winn wanted to know if the budget workshop will be on YouTube. Chairman Bishop replied that as long as ongoing COVID-19.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There were no matters.

REPORT OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

There were no matters.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Winn, to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Bishop adjourned the meeting. Chairman Bishop stated that the next scheduled meeting is May 18, 2020.

Council Members' votes:

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Roy Hollingsworth - Yes
Darin Williams – Yes
Charles H. “Buddy” Phillips - Yes
Clay Bishop – Yes