

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY; MAY 16, 2005; 6:00 P. M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, B. T. DeLOACH BUILDING, HAMPTON, SC**

Hampton County Council held a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, May 16, 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 Chair. No council members were absent. Staff present: Sabrena Posey, Administrator; Aline Newton, Clerk to Council and A. G. Solomons, Jr., County Attorney. Media present: Mr. Wayne Knuckles, The Hampton County Guardian. The meeting was advertised 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 Neil Sullivan gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Parker.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

FISCAL YEAR 2005-2006 BUDGET:

Chairman Parker opened the public hearing to receive public comments on the Fiscal Year 2005-2006 Budget. Public comments were made by the various departments regarding the cuts in their budget.

- Ms. Betty Hodges, Veterans Affairs Officer, Hampton County Department of Veterans Affairs (Attachment #1 - Presentation)
- Dr. Ann McNutt, President, Technical College of the Lowcountry
- Mr. Walter Early, Soil and Water Conservation
- Ms. Elise McQuire, Director, Disabilities and Special Needs Board
- Mr. Roy Hollingsworth, County Agent, Clemson Extension
- Ms. Kathleen Myers, Director, Boys and Girls Club
- Ms. Mary Ann Sowell, Hampton County Historical Society - Hampton County Museum
- Mr. Randolph Murdaugh, III, Solicitor's Office
- Mr. Dave Hiers, New Life Center
- Mr. Bill Shubert, Mental Health
- Mr. Jim Wescott, Lowcountry Resort Island Tourism

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Most of the agencies asked that their funding not be cut. Several agencies also stated that they understood that the funding would be phased out over a three year period. Mr. Shubert from Mental Health asked Council to reconsider phasing out agency funding. He stated that he knows counties that have done so and the citizens suffer when those services are no longer available to them. Council thanked everyone for their comments. Chairman Parker closed the public hearing.

PUBLIC COMMENT(S)

LETTER FROM MR. GROVER BOWERS, JR.:

Chairman Parker received a request from Mr. Grover Bowers, Jr., who was present to read a letter that he presented to Council. (See Attachment #2 - Letter)

MRS LINDA KELLY, HISTORICAL SOCIETY, REGARDING SPONSORSHIP FOR PICTORIAL HISTORY OF HAMPTON COUNTY:

Mrs. Kelly came before council and made a request of Hampton County to be a sponsor of the Pictorial History of Hampton County. She stated that the cost of the sponsorship would be \$2, 500. Council thanked Ms. Kelly for the presentation and took the request as information.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

ADOPTION OF MAY 2, 2005 COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA:

Chairman Parker asked if there were any changes to the agenda. **Moved** by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Ball, to adopt the agenda with the following revisions: Addition to the Administrator's Report regarding the Proposed Grant Projects and a Request from the Veterans Affairs Office. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

APRIL 4, 2005 and APRIL 18, 2005 and May 2, 2005 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:
Moved by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to approve the April 4, 2005, April 18, 2005 and the May 2, 2005 minutes. Motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentation(s).

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

There were no appointment(s).

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RESOLUTION(S)

There were no resolution(s).

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.

BIDS

BIDS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF CENTRALIZED WEBSITE:

Administrator Posey stated that bids were solicited for the centralized website. She stated that six responses were received. Administrator Posey introduced Rebecca Dale of Networking Consultants; she stated that she worked with Ms. Dale when she was in Georgetown. Administrator Posey stated that she and Rebecca Dale were authorized to open and review the proposals. Ms. Dale stated that she and Administrator Posey evaluated the bids on the basis of technical qualifications and price. (See Attachment #3 - Bid Information). Ms. Dale stated that after a review of the proposals, she and Administrator Posey recommended that Council award the bid for website services to Civic Plus. **Moved** by Council Member Ball, seconded by Council Member Bowers to accept the recommendation and to award Civic Plus the contract for \$21,700 (twenty-one thousand, seven hundred dollars) set-up fee and \$1,800 yearly hosting fee. Motion carried.

COUNCIL'S BRIEFING

REQUEST REGARDING RETENTION SCHEDULES FOR RECORDS:

Moved by Council Member Bowers, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to table the matter. Council Member Bowers stated that he would like to go down and look at the records.

REPORTS TO COUNCIL

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

APPLICATION FOR \$600,000 GRANT:

Administrator Posey stated that the application for the grant is due in June. She stated that the county along with the Town of Hampton is making application for the TEA-21 grant, the Town of Yemassee is making a separate application and the Department of Social Services is making

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application for their project. Council thanked Administrator Posey for the information.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SECTION OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN:

Administrator Posey presented the economic development portion of the strategic plan. She stated that the Hampton County Economic Development Commission made up the economic development task force. Administrator Posey stated that representatives from the Department of Commerce facilitated the work sessions and helped to prepare the strategic plan. She stated that County Council approved the process remainder of the Hampton County strategic plan last month. She stated that this portion will be added to the full plan and presented for council's approval. Administrator Posey stated that opportunities will also be given to allow council and the public to provide input in the entire plan. Council Member Bowers stated that there were some short timetables. Administrator Posey stated that they were. By acclamation, Council accepted the economic development section of the Strategic Plan.

REQUEST FROM THE VETERANS AFFAIRS OFFICE FOR OUT OF STATE TRAVEL:

Administrator Posey presented a request from the Veterans Affairs Department to attend the National Veterans Affairs Officers Training scheduled for June 12-17, 2005. Administrator Posey stated that the request is for the remainder of her travel of \$600 to go toward attendance of the conference. **Moved** by Council Member Bowers, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to approve the remainder of her travel in the amount of \$600 (six hundred dollars) to be used toward out of state travel for the Veterans Affairs Office to the National Conference (June 12-16, 2005). Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Council Member Bowers, to go into executive session to discuss a personnel matter and an economic development matter. Motion carried. Session began 7:57 p. m. and ended 8:15 p. m. **Moved** by Council Member Bowers, seconded by Council Member Johnson to come out of executive session. Motion carried. Chairman Parker stated that the following were discussed;

- Council received a report regarding a potential economic development prospect.
- Council received information regarding a personnel matter.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Council Member Bowers, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to adjourn. Chairman Parker adjourned the meeting at 8:17 p. m.