

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY; FEBRUARY 1, 2021; 6:00 P. M.
HAMPTON COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER
200 JACKSON AVENUE, EAST, HAMPTON, SOUTH CAROLINA**

Hampton County Council held a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, February 1, 2021, 6:00 p. m. Council Member(s) present: Charles H. "Buddy" Phillips, Chairman; Darin Williams, Vice Chairman; Roy Hollingsworth, Clay Bishop, and Noah O. Alexander. Council Member(s) absent: None. Staff present: Rose Dobson-Elliott, Administrator, Aline Newton, Clerk to Council, A. G. Solomons, Jr., County Attorney. Staff absent: None. Wilson Holland, Hampton County IT Director was present. The meeting was advertised as prescribed by law.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Phillips called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION:

Vice Chairman Williams gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Bishop.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

**ADOPTION OF THE FEBRUARY 1, 2021 HAMPTON COUNTY MEETING AGENDA
AND CONSENT AGENDA:**

Chairman Phillips asked for approval of the consent agenda (3.1) and the agenda (3.2). Moved by Council Member Bishop, seconded by Council Member Hollingsworth, to adopt the February 1, 2021 county council consent agenda and meeting agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

There was no public hearing(s).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

**MR. RONALD "BREEZE" WINN REGARDING INFORMATION ON ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT PROJECT:**

Mr. Winn came before council and asked when the questions from Ms. Mikell would be answered. He commented that when Mr. Bishop was chairman, he said that they would be answered. Mr. Winn said that he was interested in the answers to those questions also.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

JANUARY 19, 2021 HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES:

Moved by Council Member Hollingsworth, seconded by Council Member Bishop, to approve the January 19, 2021 Hampton County Council Meeting Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION(S)

**MR. BRANTLEY STRICKLAND, SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER,
SOUTHERNCAROLINA ALLIANCE, REGARDING UPDATE:**

Mr. Brantley Strickland, Senior Project Manager, SouthernCarolina Alliance, came before council and gave an update regarding projects and accomplishments.

APPOINTMENT(S)

There were no appointment(s).

RESOLUTION(S)/PROCLAMATION(S)

SOUTH CAROLINA VIETNAM WAR PROCLAMATION:

Chairman Phillips commented that Council Member Hollingsworth has been working on this for weeks and turned the floor over to Council Member Hollingsworth. Council Member Hollingsworth recognized Mr. Albert Wiggins, a Vietnam Vet, in attendance, and then read the proclamation. **Moved** by Council Member Hollingsworth, seconded by Council Member Bishop, to adopt the proclamation. Motion carried unanimously. Council Member Hollingsworth asked Chairman Phillips if council could request the County Administrator to appoint someone to write an article regarding the proclamation.

**RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING 100th BIRTHDAY OF THE HONORABLE
WILLINGHAM COHEN, SR.:**

Chairman Phillips commented that for those who do not know him, Mr. Cohen served on Hampton County Council during the time he was superintendent. He said that Mr. Cohen is one of the kindest gentlemen that you would meet. Chairman Phillips read the resolution. **Moved** by Council Member Bishop, seconded by Vice Chairman Williams, to adopt the resolution recognizing the 100th Birthday of the Honorable Willingham Cohen, Sr. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE(S)

2020-013, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE MASTER QUAD COUNTY MULTI-COUNTY PARK AGREEMENT TO REFLECT A NEW DISTRUBUTION OF ALL FEE PAYMENTS FOR FUTURE PARK MEMBER DEVELOPMENT IN HAMPTON COUNTY, WHEREAS HAMPTON COUNTY WOULD EARMARK A PORTION OF FUTURE FEE PAYMENTS FOR THE FOLLOWING SPECIFIC ITEMS: 20% - PROPERTY TAX RELIEF, 20% - ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ECONOMIC

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DEVLOPMENT FUND AND INDUSTRIAL PARK MAINTENANCE FUND AND 10% - COUNTY RECREATION:

County Attorney Solomons explained that he spoke with the bond attorney. It is his advice that there needs to be created a fund for the Property Relief Fund before dedicating funds to the fund. Therefore, County Attorney recommended that council stand down of second reading until the ordinance to create the Hampton County Property Relief Fund is adopted. **Moved** by Council Member Bishop, seconded by Council Member Alexander, not take any action on Ordinance 2021-001 tonight and at the next Hampton County Council meeting agenda that we will have ordinances to create the necessary funds to support Ordinance 2021-001 and second reading of Ordinance 2021-001 be put on the agenda after said funds are created. Administrator Dobson Elliott commented that first reading could be given on February 16, 2021; second reading could be given on March 1, 2021 since the Rural Summit is by zoom this year and third reading could be given on March 15, 2021. Council Member Bishop stated that he would like to add to the motion to include those dates mentioned in that order. The Clerk to Council reminded council that if there is a fully written ordinance by second reading. County Attorney Solomons suggested that you could keep the dates but add the language to state or as soon thereafter as you can have it; something could come up; if we establish specific dates to act on this thing and we can't act on it by that date, then we're in another mess. County Attorney Solomons suggested to add as soon thereafter when everything is completed that is needed to create the Property Tax Relief Fund. Council Member Bishop amended his motion to add after those dates or as soon thereafter as possible, seconded by Council Member Alexander. Motion carried unanimously.

FIRST READING BY TITLE ONLY TO 2021-002, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING PURSUANT TO TITLE 12, CHAPTER 44 OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA 1976, AS AMENDED, THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF AN AMENDED AND RESTATED FEE-IN-LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES AGREEMENT, BY AND BETWEEN HAMPTON COUNTY AND AN ENTITY IDENTIFIED BY THE COUNTY AS PROJECT VITTORIO II AND ITS AFFILIATES AND RELATED ENTITIES, TO PROVIDE FOR A FEE-IN-LIEU OF TAXES INCENTIVE AND CERTAIN SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDITS; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO. (PROJECT VITTORIO II):

Mr. Brantley Strickland, Senior Project Manager, SouthernCarolina Alliance, came before council to recommend second reading., **Moved** by Council Member Bishop, seconded by Vice Chairman Williams, to give second reading to Ordinance 2021-002, An Ordinance Authorizing Pursuant to Title 12, Chapter 44 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, As Amended, The Execution and Delivery of an Amended and Restated Fee-In-Lieu of Ad Valorem Taxes Agreement, By and Between Hampton County and An Entity Identified by the County as Project Vittorio II and Its Affiliates and Related Entities, to Provide for a Fee-In-Lieu of Taxes Incentive and Certain Special Source Revenue Credits; and Other Matters Related Thereto. (Project Vittorio II). Motion carried unanimously.

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BID(S)

There were no bid(s).

REPORT(S) TO COUNCIL

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Hampton County Budget Calendar

Administrator Dobson Elliott presented the 2021-2022 FY Budget Calendar.

Hampton County Arts Council

Administrator Dobson Elliott reported that the Hampton County Arts Council is doing another mural in the Town of Estill of Harry's Car Care, Highway 321. She stated that they are thinking about a Farmer's Market and Food Truck Park which would be run by a non-profit, The Community of One. The total cost is \$3,500. Administrator Dobson Elliott reported that they have applied for a \$1,000 grant from the South Carolina Arts Commission and asking the county to participate by providing the \$1,000 matching funds. The rest will be raised by fund raising. Administrator Dobson Elliott reported that she asks for support of this project and that the funds be paid out of advertising. Council Member Bishop stated that he spoke to the Mayor of Estill and the Estill Town Council is going to contribute to it as well, and they are in full support of it. Administrator Dobson commented that she believes that she gave everyone a copy of the proposal. Chairman Phillips asked if needed approval; Administrator Dobson Elliott responded that she was just reporting it, but it is within her spending limits; she was just letting council know that she will paying it out of advertising if there is no objection by council. Council had no objection; Council Member Alexander asked clarification that it was for \$1,000 (one thousand dollars). Administrator Dobson Elliott explained that this was the amount that they requested.

Mr. Chris Altman, Emergency Services Director

Mr. Altman came before council and gave an update on the COVID-19 issues.

Ms. Suzanne Peeples, Emergency Management Director

Ms. Peeples came before council and reported on the payments received from CARES.

Hampton County Legislative Delegation Request

Ms. Suzanne Peeples ask that the Legislative Delegation Members request the 25% matching funds for the share cost for FEMA reimbursement. Ms. Peeples reported that the Director of the State will send out a draft letter, and she will send out.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

There were no matter(s).

REPORT OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

There were no matter(s).

COUNCIL BRIEFING(S)

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE:

Chairman Phillips reported that Thursday a week ago he, Council Member Bishop and County Administrator Dobson Elliott attended the Hampton County Transportation Committee meeting and asked for some lighting for Exit 38. Chairman Phillips explained that Council Member Bishop was involved Council Member Bishop commented that the county is requesting funds from the Hampton County Transportation Committee (CTC) Fund to provide tower lighting for Exit 38 that is similar to other exits. He explained that this is for safety and economic driver. The CTC requested to meet with the team and wanted to see a complete breakdown, and they will make a determination. They set a workshop for themselves. Chairman Phillips asked if they set a date. Administrator Dobson Elliott explained that they did, but she did not have the date. She just sent Ms. Stephanie an e-mail to send her the date, and she will send to council. Council Member Alexander asked what did they mean by team; did it mean council or what? Council Member Bishop commented that they may have to change terminology. Council Member Bishop and Administrator Dobson Elliott said that they used the word team; it was called the Exit 38 Committee. The members of the team are Administrator, Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore of Yemassee, Chairman Phillips, Council Member Bishop, Administrator Dobson Elliott, Bill Hager, Dominion Energy, Blake Hodge, Public Works Director and Council Member Noah Alexander is involved.

COUNCIL MEMBER HOLLINGSWORTH REGARDING AIRPORT:

Council Member Hollingsworth wanted to report on the Airport Taxiway project. He provided council with a handout.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S UPDATE:

County Attorney Solomons stated that he had no update.

CLERK'S UPDATE:

The Clerk had no update. Council Member Bishop asked if the 2020 minutes, ordinance and resolutions, etc. have been put on the website. The Clerk responded that the ordinances have not because we have just finished some and some of the minutes are. Chairman Phillips commented that he would be talking with the Clerk and Wilson soon regarding that. Council

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Member Alexander wanted to know if the revenue amount and what we have spent for the penny sales tax can be put on the website so that we can be more transparent. Administrator Dobson Elliott responded that it can be put up by quarterly, she believed that's how it's been done in the past.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Council Member Bishop, seconded by Council Member Williams, to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Phillips adjourned the meeting.