

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY; DECEMBER 5, 2005; 6:00 P. M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, B. T. DeLOACH BUILDING, HAMPTON, SC**

Hampton County Council held its regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, December 5, 2005, 6:00 p. m., Council Chambers, B. T. DeLoach Building, Hampton, South Carolina. Council Member(s) present: Lee S. Bowers, Virgin Johnson, Sr. and Willard E. Wilson, Vice Chair. Council Members absent(s): Lisa Ball and Margaret S. Parker, Chairman. Staff present: Sabrena Posey-Graham, 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:

Vice Chairman Wilson called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION:

Pastor Kevin Byrd, Chaplain, Hampton County, gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice Chairman Wilson.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

There were no public hearing(s).

PUBLIC COMMENT(S)

There were no public comment(s).

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

ADOPTION OF NOVEMBER 7, 2005 COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA:

Moved by Council Member Bowers, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to adopt the agenda. Motion carried.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice Chairman Wilson asked if there were any changes to the minutes for November 7, 2005. There were none. **Moved** by Council Member Bowers, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to adopt the minutes. Motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS

Ms. Linda Green, Sprint

Ms. Linda Green, Sprint, presented to Hampton County a check in the amount of \$100,000 (one hundred thousand dollars) to assist with infrastructure for economic development. Vice Chairman Wilson accepted on behalf of Hampton County and thanked Ms. Green and Sprint for the generous contribution.

Vice Chairman Wilson stated that they would skip the other presentations and go back when the presenters arrived.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Council voted by secret ballot to appoint the following:

<u>Airport Commission</u>	<u>COFAC</u>	<u>Economic Development</u>	<u>Library</u>
Gerhard R. Gressmann	Susan Rowell	Clarence J. Fennell, Jr.	Emily B. Hiers Marian Platts Carroll Richard Sharon Tomilson
<u>Lowcountry Community Action Agency (LCAA)</u>			
Marcella Brown			

RESOLUTION(S)

There were no resolution(s).

ORDINANCES

SECOND (2nd) READING TO ORDINANCE #2005-008, ROAD SIGN ORDINANCE:
County Attorney Solomons clarified the matter regarding the difference in fines as stated in the South Carolina Code of Laws and the Hampton County Sign Ordinance. Attorney Solomons stated that the fine was okay as long as it did not exceed the \$1,000 as stated in the State Codes. Council thanked the County Attorney for the clarification.

BIDS

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There were no bid(s) scheduled.

COUNCIL'S BRIEFING(S)

There were no council briefing(s).

REPORT(S) TO COUNCIL

MR. JIM DANIEL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, HAMPTON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT:

Lowcountry Regional Industrial Park

Mr. Daniel came before council and updated them on the Lowcountry Regional Industrial Park. He stated that they received the grant for \$50,000 for the site certification for the Industrial Park. The same as they did for the Estill Industrial Park. Mr. Daniel stated that they have received the wetlands needs study but it has to be approved by the Army Corps of Engineers.

Estill Industrial Park Master Plan

Mr. Daniel asked council if they had reviewed the Estill Industrial Park Master Plan. Council Member Bowers stated that he had reviewed the plan but Council Members Ball and Parker wanted to go and look at the park. Council Member Wilson stated that he felt that they needed to go ahead and approve the plan. Council Member Bowers stated that he had no problem with approving it. **Moved** by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Bowers, to approve the Estill Industrial Park Master Plan. Motion carried unanimously.

Regional Alliance

Mr. Daniel stated that there was an opportunity to do a diversification study. The consultant did the 100 plus page report that cost \$170,000. He stated that they would like to form an Economic Development Alliance and to hire a Director. He stated that he was presenting the report as information to council.

Timber Cruising

Mr. Daniel reported that the timber was cruised at the Estill Industrial Park and there was nothing.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Contract with Palmetto Electric Cooperative Contract

Administrator Graham presented to council the contract for consideration with Palmetto Electric Cooperative. She stated that Palmetto Electric Cooperative agreed to invest \$75,000 (seventy-five thousand dollars) in infrastructure to partially fund the construction of a shell building within the Lowcountry Regional Industrial Park. **Moved** by Council Member Bowers, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to adopt the contract with Palmetto Electric Cooperative. Motion carried

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unanimously.

Presentation by Ms. Jan Baxter, Palmetto Electric Cooperative Contract

Ms. Jan Baxter, Palmetto Electric Cooperative Representative, presented to Hampton County a check in the amount of \$75,000 (seventy-five thousand dollars) to help with the construction of a shell building within the Lowcountry Regional Industrial Park. Council thanked Ms. Baxter.

PRESENTATIONS

Presentation by Representative Thayer River to Erica Wiley

Representative Thayer Rivers presented to Erica Wiley a certificate of recognition congratulating Ms. Wiley, on being selected as a 4-H Presidential Award Winner and a Naational 4-H Conference Delegate.

Presentation by Mr. Micheal Law, Meteorologist, National Weather Service

Mr. Micheal Law, Meteorologist, and Mr. Jerry Harrison, Representative of the National Weather Service, presented the Storm Ready Certification to Hampton County. Accepting the certification on behalf of the county was Keith Rossomme and Suzanne Peeples of Hampton County's Emergency Preparedness Team along with Vice Chairman Wilson.

REPORT(S) TO COUNCIL (CONTINUED)

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT (Continued):

Hampton County Recycling Program

Administrator Graham stated that Recycling in Hampton County is due in part to several recycling grants from the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling totaling \$20,397. She stated that Hampton County has been awarded four recycling grants for fiscal year 2006 for residential electronics recycling, waste tire/automobile dismantler recycling, used oil, solid waste which is for cardboard and office paper collection, residential cooking oil and residential anti-freeze collection. She stated that she was providing this report for informational purposes to council.

Hampton County Comprehensive Plan

Administrator Graham stated that the comprehensive plan is due to be updated. She stated that Zinnie Kozak was present if council had any questions. She stated that the plan was last revised in 1999 and should be updated every five years. She stated that the Lowcountry Council of Governments (LCOG) has presented the attached proposal to update the comprehensive plan for not more than \$7,500 (seven thousand, five hundred dollars). She stated that the work is to be completed in approximately six months. She stated that LCOG has also proposed an update to the Zoning Ordinance but this would not take place until the comprehensive plan has first been updated. She stated that a request for this update will not be made until that time. **Moved** by Council Member Bowers, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to approve the updating of the

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comprehensive plan by Lowcountry Council of Governments and that the cost for the service not exceed \$7,500 (seven thousand, five hundred dollars). Motion carried unanimously.

Out of State Travel for the Fire Department

Administrator Graham stated that there was a request from the Fire Department for out-of-state travel. She stated that the county policy requires Council's approval of all out-of-state travel. She stated that the money for the travel is budgeted, and that the department simply needed the approval of council. She stated that the travel is required for certification by the air pack manufacturer located in Monroe, North Carolina. She stated that all certification is done on-site at the manufacturer. The cost for three personnel to attend is \$682.50 (six hundred eighty-two dollars and fifty cents). **Moved** by Council Member Bowers, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to approve the out of state travel for the Fire Department. Motion carried unanimously.

Risk Management Standards Audit

Administrator Graham stated that Hampton County was audited on its Basic Risk Management Standards. She stated that Hampton County is making very good progress in meeting the Standards. She stated that John Henderson, Director of Risk Management Services and Robert Benfield of South Carolina Worker's Compensation Trust conducted the Basic Risk Management Standards audit on November 3rd. She stated that the diligent efforts of Dobie Hiers, Risk Manager, Hampton County, and the cooperation of management staff proved to be fruitful. She stated that Hampton County received a favorable report. She stated that it was recommended that more training be done in the area of a more thorough investigation regarding accidents. Administrator Graham stated that she was providing this information to Council as information.

Capital Projects Sales Tax Revenue Report

Administrator Graham provided the CPSTA Revenue Report. She stated that the revenues were up from last quarter. Administrator Graham stated that the revenues collected for this quarter was \$362,365.00 (three hundred sixty-two thousand, three hundred sixty-five dollars).

Hampton County Strategic Plan

Administrator Graham presented to Council a draft copy of the Strategic Plan. She stated that a work session is needed to review the plan before it is adopted by Council. Administrator Graham stated that the Hampton County's Strategic Plan was drafted through a coordinated effort of county council, staff and citizens. She stated that the project was facilitated by the Department of Commerce. Council stated that they will meet at 5:00 p. m. on December 19, 2005 to review the Strategic Plan.

Fiscal Year 2005 Audit – Time Extension

Administrator Graham stated that Auditor's McGregor and Company have requested an extension to complete the fiscal year 2005 audit due to some services that were not anticipated when the audit was bid. She stated that they are requesting the extension until January 30, 2006. Administrator Graham stated that the company has been working closely with Finance Director, Mike Meyer, during the audit process. She stated that due mainly to the various bank accounts held in many departments that were not included in last year's audit or on the general ledger. She stated that they had to do the work to include these accounts. She stated that the fieldwork on the audit is 85%

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completed. Administrator Graham stated that there is also a request being made by the auditor for the additional services that they have provided for \$1,655 (one thousand, six hundred fifty-five dollars). Administrator Graham stated that sufficient funds were budgeted for the audit to cover this cost. **Moved** by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Bowers, to approve the extension to January 30, 2006 for the fiscal year 2005 audit and approve payment of \$1,655 (one thousand, six hundred fifty-five dollars) for the additional auditing services provided. Motion carried unanimously.

2006 Hampton County Council Meeting Calendar

Moved by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Bowers, to approve the 2006 Hampton County Council Meeting Calendar. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

DISCUSSION OF A PERSONNEL MATTER AND AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MATTER:

Moved by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Bowers, to go into executive session to discuss a contractual matter regarding economic development. Motion carried unanimously. **Moved by** Council Member Bowers, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to reconvene into open session. Motion carried unanimously. **After coming out of executive session**, Vice Chairman Wilson stated that council was briefed on the possibility of an industry and no decision was made.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Bowers, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Vice Chairman Wilson adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p. m.