

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL'S MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY; MAY 21, 2007; 6:00 P. M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, B. T. DeLOACH BUILDING
201 JACKSON AVENUE, WEST, HAMPTON, SC**

Hampton County Council held its regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, May 21, 2007, 6:00 p. m., Council Chambers, B. T. DeLoach Building, Hampton, South Carolina. Council Member(s) present: Hugh B. Gray, Chairman; Virgin Johnson, Sr.; Charles H. "Buddy" Phillips; and Willard E. Wilson. Council Member(s) absent: Margaret S. "Peggy" Parker, Vice Chairman. Staff present: Sabrena Posey Graham, Administrator; Aline Newton, Clerk to Council and A. G. Solomons, Jr., County Attorney. Media present: Wayne Knuckles, The Hampton County Guardian. The meeting was advertised as prescribed by law.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Gray called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION:

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Phillips.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

There were no public hearing(s).

PUBLIC COMMENT(S)

There were no public comment(s).

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

ADOPTION OF THE MAY 21, 2007 COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA:

Chairman Gray called for the adoption of the agenda. **Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

APRIL 19, 2007 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES:

Chairman Gray asked if there were any changes to the minutes. **Moved** by Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

MAY 7, 2007 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

Moved by Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

Recognition of Retirement of Mrs. Edna Smith, Fiscal Coordinator, with 30 Years of Service

Chairman Gray presented to Mrs. Edna Smith, Fiscal Coordinator, a plaque in recognition of 30 (thirty) years of service to Hampton County. Mrs. Smith thanked everyone.

Dr. Ann Carmichael, Western Carolina Higher Education Commission Regarding 2007-2008 Budget Appropriations for the University of South Carolina (USC) – Salkehatchie

Dr. Carmichael introduced members of the Western Carolina High Education Commission, Dr. David Barnes and Mr. Holbrook Platts. Dr. Carmichael made a presentation regarding the 2007-2008 budget request for Western Carolina Higher Education Commission (USC Salkehatchie). She provided council with information regarding the history of USC-Salkehatchie. Dr. Carmichael thanked council for their time.

Ms. Rochelle Ferguson, Palmetto Breeze (Formerly Lowcountry Regional Transportation Authority – LRTA)

Ms. Ferguson came and made a presentation regarding Palmetto Breeze formerly known as LRTA. She asked that the original request be considered.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

There were no appointment(s).

RESOLUTION(S)

AUTHORIZATION OF THE USE OF THE CLAY PIT FOR THE WATERMELON FESTIVAL'S MUD RUN:

Moved by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to adopt the resolution granting the Watermelon Festival Committee use of the clay pit for the mud run with the provision that they have adequate insurance as stated in the resolution. Motion carried unanimously.

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NATIONAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS) WEEK, MAY 20-26, 2007:

Chairman Gray commended EMS Director, Chris Altman, for being named the EMS Director or the Year. Mr. Altman stated that he could not have done it without the team of Emergency Services Technicians, Paramedics, etc. Mr. Altman highlighted some of the programs that the Emergency Medical Services team had been implementing throughout the year and will continue to implement along with additional initiatives. He also requested that council adopt the resolution proclaiming the week of May 20-26, 2007 as National Emergency Medical Services Week. Council Member Phillips stated that he wanted to publicly thank the EMS for the job that they are doing. All members of council reiterated that same appreciation. **Moved** by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to adopt the resolution recognizing the Week of May 20-26, 2007 as National Emergency Medical Services Week. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCES

HAMPTON COUNTY'S 2007-2007, DEEDING OF ROAD, GUESS BOULEVARD (LOCATED IN THE TOWN OF HAMPTON'S INDUSTRIAL PARK) TO THE TOWN OF HAMPTON:

Moved by Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to give second (2nd) reading to Ordinance #2007-2007, Deeding of Road, Guess Boulevard (Located in the Town of Hampton's Industrial Park), to the Town of Hampton. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE #2007-006, AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2007 BUDGET:

Moved by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to give first (1st) reading to Ordinance #2007-006, Amending the Fiscal Year 2007 Budget. Motion carried unanimously.

BIDS

GROUNDS MAINTENANCE SERVICES:

Moved by Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to award the grounds maintenance service contract to the lowest bidder who met all the specifications and qualifications for the bid, Southern Green, for \$29,220 (Twenty-nine thousand, two hundred twenty dollars). Motion carried

COUNCIL'S BRIEFING(S)

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE (CHAIRMAN GRAY):

Chairman Gray gave his update. (See Attachment #1)

COUNCIL'S DISCUSSION POINT:

There were no discussion point(s) by council.

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REPORTS TO COUNCIL

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Quarterly Financial Report (Mr. Mike Meyer, Finance Director)

Mr. Meyer, Finance Director, presented the quarterly financial report and audit update. (See Attachment #2)

Lease Agreement with Beaufort County for an Alternate Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

Administrator Graham stated that she and the County Attorney had a number of questions regarding the lease but have resolved all questions. She stated that the building will be approximately 1,500 square feet and will be attached to the Hampton County Emergency Medical Services Building. Administrator Graham stated that maintenance of the building, utilities and telephone services will be paid by Beaufort County. County Attorney Solomons stated that his concerns were answered. Council Member Phillips stated that council talked about the proposal, and it was better if Beaufort County built it, because Hampton County would have to provide it to them anyway if there was a need. **Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to approve the lease agreement with Beaufort County for the alternate Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Chairman Gray wanted to know if it would go out for public bid. Administrator Graham stated that it would be handled through Beaufort County's procurement process. Motion carried unanimously.

Professional Services Contract – Engineering Services for the Department of Social Services Sidewalk Project (Mr. Blake Hodge, Public Works Director)

Mr. Hodge, Public Works Director, made the presentation regarding the professional services contract for the engineering services for the Department of Social Services' (DSS') Sidewalk Project. **Moved** by Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to award the professional services contract for the Department of Social Services' (DSS') Sidewalk Project as recommended by Mr. Hodge, Public Works Director, to Civil Engineering Consulting Services (which is on South Carolina Department of Transportation's (SCDOT's) approved bidders list) for \$37,958.55 (thirty-seven thousand, nine hundred fifty-eight dollars and fifty-five cents) to design, bid and oversee the construction of the sidewalk project along with the Hampton County Public Works Department. Motion carried unanimously. The cost for the contract will be paid from the grant awarded for the project. (Sidewalk Project Location: Proposed construction of a five foot sidewalk on the North side of First Street (US 601) from Locust Street for approximately 3,000 feet to Ginn Altman Road.)

Hampton County Fire/Rescue 2006 Annual Report (Chief Gene Rushing)

Mr. Rushing, Fire Chief, came before council and gave an overview of the Fire/Rescue 2006 Annual Report. (See Attachment #3)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to discuss economic

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development matters. Motion carried unanimously. Session began 6:30 p. m and ended 6:39 p. m. **Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to come out of executive session. Motion carried unanimously. After coming out of executive session, Chairman Gray stated that the County Administrator brought county council up to date on two economic development matters.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Chairman Gray adjourned the meeting at 6:40 p. m.