

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL'S MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY; DECEMBER 3, 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, December 3, 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; Margaret S. "Peggy" Parker, Vice Chairman and Willard E. Wilson. Staff present: Sabrena Posey Graham, Administrator; Aline Newton, Clerk to Council and A. G. Solomons, Jr., County Attorney. Media present: Shellie Murdaugh, 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. He recognized Representative Curtis Brantley, South Carolina House of Representative, District 122. Representative Brantley stated that he was glad to be present and wanted to share that he was in agreement with Hampton County's mission and vision, and if it was anything that he could do in Columbia to make it become a reality, he would stand ready to do so.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**INVOCATION:**

Pastor Byrd gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Felicia and Micheal Becker.

**PUBLIC HEARING(S)**

There were no public hearing(s).

**PUBLIC COMMENT(S)**

**Santa Claus**

Santa Claus came by to thank the council for the job that they were doing. Also, he and his elves distributed gifts to everyone.

**Louise Gregorie and Shirley Turknett**

Both ladies spoke on the issue of a lot being used for dumping trash, etc. on the McPhersonville Road. They stated that a petition had been submitted, and they wanted to know if Council was aware. Chairman Gray stated that they had received the petition and was working on the matter.

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**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**ADOPTION OF THE DECEMBER 3, 2007 COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA:**

**Moved** by Council Member Parker, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to adopt the December 3, 2007 County Council Meeting Agenda with the following revisions: (1) Deletion of Item #10.2.1, Ordinance #2007-014, An ordinance to develop a jointly owned and operated industrial/business park in conjunction with Colleton County, such industrial/business park to be geographically located in Colleton and Hampton Counties and established pursuant to SC Code of Laws of 1976 4-1-10, et. Esquire as amended, (2) Move Item #10.2.2, Ordinance #2007-016, Fee-In-Lieu for Ecogy Biofuels, after executive session, (3) Addition of Item #13.1.3, Possible meeting change and (4) Addition of Item #14.2, Economic Development Contractual Matter. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**NOVEMBER 19, 2007 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:**

Chairman Gray stated that he reviewed the minutes, and asked for a motion to adopt. **Moved** by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to approve the minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.

**PRESENTATIONS**

**Recognition of Retiree, Mrs. Ida Ferguson**

Mrs. Ferguson was not present. Council would recognize Mrs. Ferguson when she arrived.

**Emergency Response Recognition (Mr. Allen Terry and Mr. Tommy Smith)**

Mr. Allan Terry, Mr. Tommy Smith and Pastor Paul Reid came before council to give recognition and to thank all the Fire departments, sheriff department and emergency service for assisting with the Sandy Run Baptist Church fire. Mr. Terry stated that the Vice President of the insurance company was present the next day at the site and was impressed that the social hall was saved with the magnitude of that fire. In gratitude, he presented the Hampton County Fire Department a check in the amount of \$1,000 (one thousand dollars) for their professional and quick response.

**Presentation by Randy Krause, Public Affairs Manager, Embarg**

Mr. Krause informed everyone that Tom Allen had finally retired. He stated that he was Mr. Allen's replacement. Mr. Krause presented council with a \$50,000 (Fifty thousand dollars) check to be used for economic development purposes.

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**APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

There were no appointment(s).

**RESOLUTION(S)**

There were no resolution(s).

**ORDINANCE(S)**

**AMENDMENT TO THE UNIFIED LAND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE, SECTION 7.1.1, AUTOMOTIVE WRECKING, SALVAGE AND JUNK YARDS (BY TITLE ONLY):**

Chairman Gray stated that the information was in council's packet. He asked if there was a motion to accept as information by title only for first reading for the Unified Land Development Ordinance. **Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to accept as information by title only for first reading. Motion carried unanimously.

**BIDS**

There were no bid(s) scheduled.

**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 points.

**COUNCIL'S 2008 MEETING CALENDAR:**

**Moved** by Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to adopt the 2008 meeting calendar. Motion carried unanimously.

**REPORTS TO COUNCIL**

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

**Nuisance Ordinance Update**

Mr. Randy Crews, Building Inspector, Hampton County, came before council and gave a progress report. (See attachment #2).

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**Courthouse Project – Change Order #2**

Mr. Richard Madison, Commercial Inspector, Building Department, came before council to explain Change Order #2. He stated that a substitution of 1 5/8" for the 7/8" channels for the metal stud framing in the existing building was needed. He stated that the masonry walls in the existing building were irregular which would have reflected in the drywall. He stated that the total cost of the change was \$9,429 (nine thousand, four hundred twenty-nine dollars), and there was a need for structural repairs in the existing building. He stated that during the building's demolition, several structural deficiencies were noted. He stated that a structural engineer was called to analyze and address the issues that included, termite damage to the original wood studs, the foundation underneath the removed studs were insufficient to support the courtroom floor above, floor elevations did not match in an area and steel lintels were required over several openings. He stated that the cost for this change is \$47,517. Council Member Wilson wanted to know if there were any more unforeseeable problems that would cost more than the remaining balance of the project's contingency. Mr. Madison stated that he could not answer, because all the information regarding a situation would have to be reviewed, etc. He stated that there is a problem with the basement. He stated that water is getting into the building, and they need to find out where the water is coming from before they can solve the problem. There was a short discussion. **Moved** by Council Member Parker, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to approve Change Order #2 and to transfer the cost of the change order, \$56,946 (fifty-six thousand, nine hundred forty-six dollars) out of the project's contingency fund. Motion carried with Council Member Wilson voting against. There is \$100,000 in the project's contingency fund. The project's contingency will be decreased by \$56,946, to cover the cost for Change Order #02. The total cost for the project will not change. (See Attachment #3).

**Change Meeting Date**

**Moved** by Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Parker, to move the December 17, 2007 meeting to December 20, 2007. Motion carried unanimously. This will accommodate the need for the public hearing to give third reading to the Ecogy Biofuels Fee In Lieu of Taxes Ordinance.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Moved** by Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to go into executive session to discuss a personnel matter and an economic development contractual matter. Motion carried unanimously. Session began 7:00 p. m. and ended 7:50 p. m. **Moved** by Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to come out of executive session. Motion carried unanimously. After coming out of executive session, Chairman Gray stated that Council discussed a personnel matter.

**Plan of Work for Clerk to Council**

**Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Wilson, for the plan of work to begin January 1, 2008 and end December 31, 2008. Motion carried.

**Contractual Matter**

Chairman Gray stated that they reviewed further information for the Fee In Lieu of Taxes Agreement for Ecogy Biofuels. Administrator Graham stated the terms of the agreement (see

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attachment #4). **Moved** by Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to give second reading to Ordinance 2007-016 with the change that the millage rate be reviewed every five (5) years. Motion carried unanimously.

**Grievance Hearing Committee's Recommendation**

Chairman Gray stated that the Grievance Committee presented their recommendation to council for acceptance or rejection. **Moved** by Council Member Parker, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to accept the Grievance Committee's recommendation. Motion carried with Council Member Johnson voting against.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved** by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Gray adjourned the meeting at 7:53 p. m.