

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL'S MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY; FEBRUARY 4, 2008; 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, February 4, 2008, 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: 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:

Council Member Johnson gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Phillips.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

CLOSE OUT GIS PLANNING GRANT (MS. MICHELLE KNIGHT, LOWCOUNTRY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS):

Ms. Michelle Knight, Lowcountry Council of Governments' Representative, came before council to conduct the public hearing for the close out of the GIS Planning Grant. Ms. Knight opened the public hearing to receive comments. She stated that:

- the public hearing was to discuss the performance and accomplishments for the GIS Planning Grant.
- the public hearing was advertised and also will assist with the county's participation process which allows the public to come in at a certain point and participate during the grant process
- the public hearing is where the public citizens can come in and state their opinion Pro or Con and voice their opinion about what accomplishments have been made.

Ms. Knight stated that this was a grant that was awarded in March 2006. It is a planning grant that was funded through Hampton County to Lowcountry Council of Governments (LCOG) in the amount of \$5,533 (five thousand, five hundred, thirty-three dollars). She stated that the purpose of the grant was to update LCOG's GIS Data Base System so that they would have adequate mapping information for water and sewer for all four counties in their region and all the communities in their region. Ms. Knight stated that this was a project that was done with every COG across the state. Each COG received the grant through one of their member counties for

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL'S MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY; FEBRUARY 4, 2008; 6:00 P. M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, B. T. DeLOACH BUILDING
201 JACKSON AVENUE, WEST, HAMPTON, SC**

this purpose and each COG as well received \$10,000 (ten thousand dollars) from the United States Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration for this project.

Ms. Knight stated that the updates were made in their Planning Department by Ginnie Kozack and Karen McAllister. She stated that Ginnie and Karen have been in contact with all the localities within the region to update the water and sewer data; they overlaid parcel data with LCOG's GIS system and all that work has been completed and all that data has been copied and forwarded to the South Carolina Department of Commerce as per the requirements of the grant. Ms. Knight asked if there were any comments. There were no comments. Ms. Knight closed the public hearing.

HAMPTON COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT HEARING (MS. MICHELLE KNIGHT, LOWCOUNTRY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS):

Ms. Michelle Knight, Lowcountry Council of Governments' Representative, came before council to conduct the public hearing for Hampton County's Needs Assessment. Ms. Knight opened the public hearing to receive comments. Ms. Knight explained that Lowcountry Council of Governments were required to hold a public hearing to find out what the communities' priorities are. She stated that during this public hearing, she would be giving information about the various programs available, etc. She stated that this hearing basically gets the county in position to be able to apply for funds. Ms. Knight presented a PowerPoint presentation regarding the programs, etc. available. She stated that Hampton County's Needs Assessment for December 2006 included: (1) Economic Development - Spec Building, (2) Library Project, (3) Health Department, (4) Infrastructure – Affordable Housing and (5) Industrial Park – Shovel Ready Sites. Administrator Graham stated that she wanted to add to the list: (6) Fire Facilities, (7) Improvement for Job Skills Training (Mungin Center), (8) Regional Water System and (9) Housing Study Assessment. Ms. Knight stated that she will get the listing to council and would ask that council rank the list according to priority. Administrator Graham stated that council will consider the prioritizing of the list at the next council meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT(S)

There were no public comments.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

ADOPTION OF THE FEBRUARY 4, 2008 COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA:

Moved by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to adopt the February 4, 2008 county council meeting agenda with the following revisions: (1) Add Item #7.1, Presentation by Kay Maxwell, SouthernCarolina Alliance's, Marketing Report, (2) Add Item #12.1.1, Revision to Advertisements Regarding Appointments, (3) Add Item #14.1, Personnel Matter, (4) Delete Item #12.3, Buildings and Grounds Committee Report and (5) Move Item #13.1.2 to Item #10.2.1. Motion carried unanimously.

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL'S MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY; FEBRUARY 4, 2008; 6:00 P. M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, B. T. DeLOACH BUILDING
201 JACKSON AVENUE, WEST, HAMPTON, SC**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

JANUARY 22, 2008 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

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

PRESENTATIONS

MS. KAY MAXWELL, SOUTHERNCAROLINA ALLIANCE REGARDING HAMPTON COUNTY'S MARKETING REPORT:

Ms. Maxwell came before council and stated that the SouthernCarolina Alliance had received and reviewed the marketing plan for the region. SCA has prepared an executive summary that is available and will be happy to schedule a day and go over it with council at length. She stated that it is up to the local group (Hampton County) to address the suggestions, assessments, strengths and challenges. Chairman Gray thanked Ms. Maxwell.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES OF APPOINTMENTS:

Chairman Gray presented certificates of appointment to:

Aging Board: James A. Williams

Airport Commission: Fred E. Mixson, Jr.

Library Board: Carroll Richard and Jean Small

Planning Commission: Lawton Clarke O'Cain

RESOLUTION(S)

There were no resolution(s).

ORDINANCE(S)

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE UNIFIED LAND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE
SECTION 7.1.1 AUTOMOTIVE WRECKING, SLAVAGE AND JUNKYARDS
(MR. WILLIAM R. CREWS, JR., BUILDING INSPECTOR):**

Mr. Crews came before council to present the proposed amendment to the Unified Land Development Ordinance, Section 7.1.1, Automotive Wrecking, Salvage and Junkyards. There was a question regarding the reading number. Also, Council Member Johnson had a question regarding the "grandfather clause" pertaining to the ordinance. **Moved** by Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to table the matter until the Planning Commission could provide an answer to Council Member Johnson's question regarding the

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL'S MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY; FEBRUARY 4, 2008; 6:00 P. M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, B. T. DeLOACH BUILDING
201 JACKSON AVENUE, WEST, HAMPTON, SC**

“grandfather clause”. Motion carried with Council Member Parker voting against. Council Member Phillips stated that people, who are going to be affected by this, need to read it. He stated that he doesn’t want people to think that council is trying to slip anything pass them.

BIDS

AWARDING OF BID FOR RAIL IMPROVEMENTS FOR CAROLINA SOYA AND KNIGHTSBRIDGE:

Administrator Graham stated that Hampton County was awarded a \$660,000 grant from the South Carolina Department of Commerce on behalf of Carolina Soya and Knightsbridge for the construction of a rail spur onto the property. She stated that since the rail must be publicly owned, Hampton County has been asked to serve as owner of the rail. She stated that the Lowcountry Council of Government is administering the grant award. She stated that Carolina Soya and Knightsbridge contracted with the engineering firm Hussey, Gay, Bell and Deyoung International, Inc. to oversee the project and bid process. She stated that three bid(s) were received on December 10, 2007. She stated that the engineering firm is recommending that the bid be awarded to the low bidder, Queen City Railroad Construction, Inc. for a Division I base bid of \$554,305. She stated that Carolina Soya is in agreement with this recommendation. She stated that the South Carolina Department of Commerce must approve the construction contract. Administrator Graham stated that Council’s decision to award the bid will be pending the state’s approval. **Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to award the bid for the Carolina Soya Rail Yard Project to the low bidder, Queen City Railroad Construction, Inc., for \$591,305 (a Division I base bid of \$554,255 and a lump sum of items for Division II totaling \$37,050) as recommended by engineering firm Hussey, Gay, Bell and Deyoung International, Inc. and accepted by Carolina Soya and pending the state’s approval of the contract. Motion carried unanimously.

COUNCIL'S BRIEFING(S)

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE (CHAIRMAN GRAY):

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

UPDATE REGARDING THE SHERIFFS' PLAQUE

Chairman Gray asked the Clerk to Council to give a report regarding the sheriffs’ plaque. It was reported that a quote was received for a 30” x 30” plaque that would list the names and years of service for each sheriff who served Hampton County with an additional line on the corresponding name tag of certain sheriffs citing any special distinction for that sheriff. The location of the plaque would be in the lobby of the Hampton County Law Enforcement Center. Council stated that they would review the handout and make a decision at the next meeting.

COUNCIL'S DISCUSSION POINT:

There were no discussion points.

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL'S MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY; FEBRUARY 4, 2008; 6:00 P. M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, B. T. DeLOACH BUILDING
201 JACKSON AVENUE, WEST, HAMPTON, SC**

**REPORT FROM THE ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
REGARDING THE VETERANS' AFFAIRS OFFICE REQUEST:**

Veterans' Affairs Office's Request for Funding

Chairman Gray stated that the Administration and Finance Committee met at 5:00 p. m. today to discuss a funding request from the Veterans' Affairs Office. He stated that it was decided that the Chairman would meet with the Veterans' Affairs Officer to discuss a lesser amount of funding. He stated that he will make a report at the next scheduled Administration and Finance Committee meeting scheduled for 5:00 p. m. on February 19th to discuss the results of his meeting with the Veterans' Affairs Officer.

REPORTS TO COUNCIL

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Town of Brunson's Rehab Project

Administrator Graham stated that it was a joint request from the Town of Brunson and the Home Consortium Board (LCOG) requesting a waiver of fees for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Housing Rehab Project. Chairman Gray asked if the county had a procedure for waiving fees. Council Member Parker stated that the county needed a policy. Council Member Phillips stated that he did not have a problem with the request, but there needed to be some consistency or guidelines as to what the project was, etc. **Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to waive the building permit fees for the Town of Brunson's Housing Rehab Project. Motion carried unanimously.

2008/2009 Budget Calendar (Mike Meyer, Finance Director)

Moved by Council Member Parker, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to approve the budget calendar as presented at the retreat. Motion carried unanimously.

Fiscal Year 2007/2008 2nd Quarter Financial Report (Mike Meyer, Finance Director)

Mr. Meyer presented the 2007-2008 2nd Quarter Financial Report to council. Mr. Meyer stated that expenditures are very much in line. He stated that property tax notices were distributed in November. He stated that a couple of departments were in excess of 50%, the Coroner which was due to autopsies and the Detention Center due to inmates medical cost. Mr. Meyer stated that overall everything looked okay. Council thanked Mr. Meyer for his report.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to go into executive session to discuss a personnel matter. Session began 8:00 p. m. and ended 8:36 p. m. After coming out of executive session, Chairman Gray reported that no action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Parker, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Gray adjourned the meeting at 8:37 p. m.