

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL'S MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY; DECEMBER 15, 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, December 15, 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 and Aline Newton, Clerk to Council and A. G. Solomons, Jr., County Attorney. Media present: Michael DeWitt, The Hampton County Guardian and Shellie Murdaugh, Lowcountryus.net. 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 Borum 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)

Mr. Robert Smith, Moseley Architects, Courthouse Presentation

Mr. Smith showed a PowerPoint of the renovated courthouse.

Mr. Sean Murdaugh, Citizen, Regarding An Installment Method of Paying Taxes

Mr. Murdaugh came before council and asked if council would consider implementing a method of paying partial taxes (installment payments). He stated that Beaufort County has already implemented this payment method and Colleton is working on it. He stated that this would help home owners and small businesses. Council stated that they would research the matter.

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ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

ADOPTION OF THE DECEMBER 15, 2008 COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA:
Moved by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to adopt the agenda with the following revisions: (1) Move Item #12.2.1, Appeal of the Planning Commission's Decision to Item #7.3, (2) Addition of Item #13.1.3, Acceptance of the CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) Award. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

DECEMBER 1, 2008 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

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

PRESENTATIONS

MS. BETH McNEER, DIRECTOR OF THE ALLENDALE-HAMPTON-JASPER REGIONAL LIBRARY, REGARDING THE LIBRARY'S ANNUAL REPORT:

Ms. McNeer came before council and presented the end of year report. (See attachment #1 – Annual Report)

DR. WILLIAM SMALL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE HAMPTON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION, REGARDING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATES:

Dr. Small came before council and gave an update on economic development matters. (See attachment #2 – Updates)

APPEAL OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION'S DECISION:

Mr. Gerald Anderson came before council and requested that based on the information given to him by the former Planning Commission and Building Inspector, Doug Mixson, regarding the roads at the Big Branch Sub-Division be upheld. Mr. Anderson presented information and documents regarding his request. He stated that he would like to appeal the decision of the present Planning Commission to not accept the roads. Council stated that they will check into the matter and get back to him.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

There were no appointments.

RESOLUTION(S)

There were no resolution(s).

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ORDINANCE(S)

ORDINANCE #2008-018, FEE IN LIEU OF TAX PROPOSED FOR CAROLINA SOYA EXPANSION:

Moved by Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to give second reading to Ordinance #2008-018, Fee In Lieu of Tax Proposed for Carolina Soya Expansion. Motion carried unanimously.

FIRST READING TO THE HAMPTON COUNTY RULES AND PROCEDURES

ORDINANCE BY TITLE ONLY:

Moved by Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to give first reading by title only to the Hampton County Rules and Procedures Ordinance. Motion carried unanimously.

BID(S)

There were no bid(s) scheduled.

COUNCIL=S BRIEFING(S)

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE (CHAIRMAN GRAY):

Chairman Gray gave his update. (See Attachment #3)

COUNCIL'S DISCUSSION POINT(S):

Employees Receiving Pay Before Christmas

Council Member Wilson requested that the employees receive their pay before Christmas. He stated that he noticed that employees would receive their pay on the 26th after Christmas. He stated that he thought that this would be a nice surprise for the employees to be paid prior to Christmas. Administrator Graham stated that they had planned to do so.

REPORTS TO COUNCIL

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

CHANGE ORDERS:

PCO #118 Moseley Architects recommended PCO #118 excluding the nine (9) additional days requested. **Moved** by Council Member Parker, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to approve under protest payment of PCO #118 (\$9,029 – Installation of the Mitsubishi split system in data room A154 without the nine additional days requested). Motion carried unanimously.

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- PCO #122:** **Moved** by Council Member Parker, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to approve the payment of PCO #122 (\$495 – Installation of Obscure Blass in Wall Scones at existing stairs). Motion carried unanimously.
- PCO #124:** **Moved** by Council Member Parker, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to approve the payment of PCO #124 (Deduct of 4,759 – Contingency Balance) Motion carried unanimously.
- PCO #125:** **Moved** by Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to table PCO #125 (Add 939 - 1% Bond Increase for total change orders equaling \$93,901). Motion carried unanimously.

(See attachment #4 – Change Orders)

I-95 COORIDOR ECONOMIC RECOVER PROJECT:

Administrator Graham stated that Chris Bickley, Executive Director, Lowcountry Council of Governments, is compiling project information for consideration and inclusion in the federal economic recovery program expected to be approved and funded early next year. She stated that Mr. Bickley stated that Congressman Clyburn is interested in having a significant portion of the funds spent within the I-95 Corridor. Administrator Graham stated that she composed the list, because it was a quick turn around. She presented the list to council:

1. Complete the four lane work on SC 68/278 up to the Lowcountry Regional Industrial Park and on up to the Town of Hampton.
2. Water and Sewer infrastructure from I-95 up SC 68 to the Lowcountry Regional Industrial Park and the newly proposed Mega Site. Infrastructure (Water, Sewer, Roads, etc.) in the Mega Site.
3. Regional Water/Sewer System for Hampton County. To provide the citizens of Hampton County with safe drinking water.
4. Workforce Training Center at Technical College of the Lowcountry
5. Construction of a vocational training center centrally located to serve students from districts one and two in Hampton County as well as students in neighboring Allendale County high schools.
6. Provide lighting at I-95 @ SC Highway 68 (Exist 38) Interchange
7. Widening of Highway 321 to improve commercial access to I-95.
8. Become a member of the SC Statewide 800 MHz Radio and Mobile Data System
9. Develop second exit off I-95 in the Town of Yemassee.

(See attachment #5)

ACCEPTANCE OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK (CDBG) GRANT:

Administrator Graham requested that council approve the acceptance of the Community Enrichment grant award from the South Carolina Department of Commerce in the amount of \$265,741 (two hundred sixty-five thousand, seven hundred forty-one dollars) to purchase equipment as part of the Technical College of the Lowcountry (TCL) improvement project. **Moved** by Council Member Parker, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to accept the Community Enrichment grant award from the South Carolina Department of Commerce in the amount of \$265,741 (two hundred sixty-five thousand, seven hundred forty-one dollars) to

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purchase equipment as part of the Technical College of the Lowcountry (TCL) improvement project. Motion carried unanimously.

UPDATES:

Mr. Vince Viola Regarding Big Mama's Road

Chairman Gray informed Mr. Viola that the Charlie Crews, Chairman of the Transportation Committee, who handles the CTC funds has been in the hospital. Chairman Gray informed Mr. Viola that as soon as a meeting can be arranged he will contact him.

Penny Sales Tax Money

Council Member Parker asked Mr. Meyers, Finance Director, about the Penny Sales tax for the third (3rd) quarter. Mr. Meyers stated that he hasn't received it yet but as soon as he does he will e-mail it to her.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Gray adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p. m.