

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL'S MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY; NOVEMBER 16, 2009; 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, November 16, 2009, 6:00 p. m., Council Chambers, B. T. DeLoach Building, Hampton, South Carolina. Council Member(s) present: Hugh B. Gray, Chairman; Virgin Johnson, Sr. and Charles H. "Buddy" Phillips. 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: 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 Byrd gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Gray.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

5.1 November 2, 2009 Regular Meeting Minutes

**Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**ADOPTION OF THE NOVEMBER 16, 2009 COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA:**

Chairman Gray asked if there were any changes to the agenda. **Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to adopt the agenda with the following revision: (1) Delete Item #8.2, Hazard Mitigation Plan – It will be covered, (2) Add Item #.14.1.2, 911 Dispatch System Update, (3) Add Item #15.2, Economic Development Matter. Motion carried unanimously.

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**PUBLIC HEARING(S)**

**HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN (MR. MATTHEW BRADY, SENIOR PLANNER,  
LOWCOUNTRY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS):**

Chairman Gray opened the public hearing to receive public comments in regards to the Hazard Mitigation Plan which would be explained by Mr. Matthew Brady, Senior Planner, LCOG. Mr. Brady came before council and stated that he was there to take public comments regarding the updating of the Hazard Mitigation Plan, as is required by FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Association). He stated that the Lowcountry Council of Governments is preparing an updated Hazard Mitigation Plan for the three-county area of Colleton, Hampton and Jasper. Mr. Brady stated that in order to receive grant money for hazard mitigation, or to receive aid after a disaster, FEMA requires that this plan be updated every five years. He stated that public input is vital to ensure that all communities are represented and no concerns are overlooked. Mr. Brady stated that the plan is on its way, as risks and hazards have been identified and assessed. He stated that the next step requires structuring a list of possible goals, objectives and strategies to help mitigate any damage caused by these hazards. Mr. Brady stated that this meeting is to inform Council and the public of the process of updating the plan as well as opening the floor for any questions, concerns or further input. Chairman Gray stated that this would address things like signage for evacuation routes, etc. There were no further comments. Chairman Gray closed the public hearing.

**PUBLIC COMMENT(S)**

**Ms. Mary Ann Duncan and Mr. George Kenneth Youmans Regarding Big Mama's Road**

Ms. Duncan and Mr. Youmans came before council and explained that they wanted to know why their names were on the lawsuit in regards to the condemnation. They wanted to know why they would have to pay an attorney to defend them when this is a process that is between the county and the landowner (Sue and Vince Viola). Council stated that they were advised by their council that they should not comment on the matter. County Attorney Solomons stated that Council will not comment openly on a matter in litigation.

**Mr. Vince Viola Regarding Big Mama's Road**

Mr. Viola stated that they were not guilty of anything. He stated that his wife was not going to be exploited.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes were approved under the Consent Agenda.

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**PRESENTATION(S)**

**REPORT REGARDING THE HAMPTON COUNTY MUSEUM (MRS. BETTY RUTH CREWS, PRESIDENT, HAMPTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY):**

Mrs. Crews came before council and stated that an inspection was conducted on the second floor structure of the Hampton County Museum on November 2, 2009. She stated that the report is that the building is sound. Administrator Graham stated that she will be happy to get with the Building Department and follow up with Mrs. Crews.

**APPOINTMENT(S) TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

No appointment(s) scheduled.

**RESOLUTION(S)**

**ADOPTION OF THE RESOLUTION TO EXPAND THE BOUNDARIES OF THE QUAD-COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK I TO INCLUDE PROJECT HOME IN ALLENDALE COUNTY:**

**Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to adopt the resolution to expand the boundaries of the Quad-County Industrial Park I to include Project HOME in Allendale County. Motion carried unanimously.

**ORDINANCES**

**ORDINANCE #2009-014, AMENDMENT TO THE UNIFIED LAND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE ZONING MAP:**

Mr. Crews came before council and stated that R & L Trucking applied for rezoning of property off Highway 68 outside of Yemassee. Mr. Crews stated that the Hampton County Planning Commission recommended rezoning the property from residential to industrial. Chairman Gray asked if there were any residents in this area. Mr. Crews stated that there were not.

Council Member Phillips asked if there were any complaints. Mr. Crews stated that there were no complaints at this time. **Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to accept the recommendation of the Hampton County Planning Commission and give first reading to the amendment to the Unified Land Development Ordinance Zoning Map. Motion carried unanimously.

**AMENDMENT TO THE HAMPTON COUNTY RULES AND PROCEDURES:**

**Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to give first reading to the amendment to the Hampton County Rules and Procedures. Motion carried unanimously. The amendment addresses the residency requirements for board/commission members.

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**BID(S)**

There were no bid(s).

**COUNCIL'S BRIEFING(S)**

**CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE (CHAIRMAN GRAY):**

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

**COUNCIL'S DISCUSSION POINT(S):**

There were no discussion point(s).

**CANCELLATION OF THE DECEMBER 21, 2009 COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING:**

**Moved** by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to cancel the second meeting in December which is scheduled for December 21, 2009. Motion carried unanimously.

**REPORTS TO COUNCIL**

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

**Litter Report for October 2009**

Mrs. Graham presented the Litter Report as information and stated that progress was still being made. Council Members Phillips asked about two cases with same charges but different penalties. Council Member Phillips stated that he was just curious; he stated that he was sure there was a good explanation. Mrs. Graham stated that some penalties depended on the number of times contacted and the response. She stated that she would contact the Litter Officer and find out the answer.

**911 Dispatch System Update**

Mr. Gene Rushing, Fire Chief, Hampton County, came before council and explained that on August 2, 2009 their 911 Dispatch System took a direct hit from lightening. He stated that he wanted to report that with the settlement from the insurance company for the equipment and a reimbursement from the state; Hampton County will update their system at no cost to the taxpayers. Mr. Rushing stated that they were mandated to upgrade their system to digital radio system by 2013. He stated that this allowed the county to update their system as mandated.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**LEGAL MATTER:**

**Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to go into executive session to discuss a legal matter and an economic development matter. Motion carried unanimously. **Moved** by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to

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come out of executive session. Motion carried unanimously. After Coming out of executive session, Chairman Gray stated that:

- (1) Economic Development Matter - Council got an update on an economic development matter. He stated that it concerned a prospect to go into the park.
- (2) Legal Matter – Council discussed the lawsuit by Mrs. Viola. **Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, for the county attorney to represent and respond to the lawsuit regarding Big Mama's Road. Motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved** by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Gray adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p. m.