

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL'S MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY; AUGUST 15, 2011; 6:00 P. M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, B. T. DeLOACH BUILDING
201 JACKSON AVENUE, WEST, HAMPTON, SC**

Hampton County Council held a special meeting on Monday, August 15, 2011, 6:00 p. m., Council Chambers, B. T. DeLoach Building, Hampton, South Carolina. Council Member(s) present: Hugh B. Gray, Chairman; Christopher B. Haulsee, Virgin Johnson, Sr. and Charles H. "Buddy" Phillips, Vice Chairman and Shedron Williams. Staff present: Michael Meyer, Finance and Human Resource Director, Acting Administrator; Aline Newton, Clerk to Council and A. G. Solomons, Jr., County Attorney. Media present: Michael DeWitt, 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:

Chairman Gray gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Phillips.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to approve the Consent Agenda:

- 3.1.1 June 20, 2011 County Council's Meeting Minutes
- 3.1.2 July 11, 2011 County Council's Special Meeting Minutes
- 3.1.2 Litter Report

and the July 18, 2011 County Council Meeting Agenda with the following revisions: (1) Add Item #7.2, Mr. Jaime Wood, Lowcountry Council of Governments, Regarding Jobs for American Graduates (JAG) Program at Estill High School, (2) Add Item #12.4, Changing Date of August 1, 2011 Meeting, (3) Table Item #10.2.1, Ordinance #2011-012, Rezoning of Parcel #069-00-00-017 from Residential Conservation Development to Industrial Development. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

THIRD READING TO ORDINANCE #2011-013, ACCEPTANCE OF THE GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS IN THE FORM OF A PROMISSORY NOT FOR \$500,000 FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA):

Chairman Gray called the public hearing to order to receive public comments regarding third reading to Ordinance #2011-013, Acceptance of the General Obligation Bonds in the Form of a Promissory Note for \$500,000 From United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). There

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were no comments in opposition to the third reading to Ordinance #2011-013. Chairman Gray closed the public hearing.

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA) LIBRARY
GRANT/LOAN:**

Chairman Gray opened the public hearing to receive public comments from the public. There were comments from Ms. Beth McNeer, Director, Allendale-Hampton-Jasper Regional Library Board, Mrs. Emily Hiers, Chair, Hampton County Library Board; all spoke in favor or the grant/loan for the expansion of the Estill Library. Other board members were present along with Mrs. Gordon, Librarian, Estill Library. Chairman Gray closed the public hearing.

PUBLIC COMMENT(S)

**MR. JACK COOK, CITIZEN, REGARDING OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED
LOCATION OF A HALFWAY HOUSE IN THE COMMUNITY NEAR THE JUNCTION
OF HIGHWAY #363 AND HIGHWAY #63:**

Mr. Jack Cook, Citizen, spoke on behalf of his neighborhood in regards to the community opposing the proposed placement of a Halfway House in their community which is near the junction of Highway #363 and Highway #63. Council stated that there was nothing that they could do about it since they violated no zoning laws. Mr. Cook asked if he could complete the collection of his petition signatures and place on file to council. Council stated that they would accept the petitions but had no authority over the placement of the facility that violated no zoning laws.

ISSUE REGARDING DRY PONDS/WELLS:

Mr. Douglas Smith

Mr. Smith spoke thanked the Mr. Devlin and Mr. Bristol for their presentation but stated that he disagreed with some of the information that they provided in explaining the drying up of ponds and wells in Hampton County.

Mr. Jim Lowry

Mr. Lowry stated that he lived on the other side of the farmer's irrigation system and his pond/well has dried up also. He stated that would speak to the DHEC Officials on an individual basis after hearing the presentation.

Mr. J. W. Mole

He stated that his well had gone dry, and he had to drill a little deeper.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes were approved under the Consent Agenda.

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PRESENTATION(S)

RECOGNITION OF LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL TEAMS IN HAMPTON COUNTY:

Council recognized the accomplishments of the Hampton County Little League Baseball Teams in Hampton County. The Hampton-Varnville Minor All-Stars (ages 9-10) were named the 2011 District 8 Champions and tied for third place in the South Carolina State Tournament. The Hampton-Varnville Majors (ages 11-12) finished second in the Ridgeland Tournament. Council thanked the players and coaches for a job well done.

**PRESENTATION OF PLAQUE TO MRS. ANN AYER, RETIRED DIRECTOR,
COUNCIL ON AGING:**

Council presented a plaque to Mrs. Ann Ayer in recognition of her many years of dedicated service to Hampton County as the director of the Council on Aging.

**MR. ROB DEVLIN, REPRESENTATIVE, THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND
ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL (DHEC) BUREAU OF WATER:**

Mr. Rob Devlin and Mr. Paul Bristol, Representatives, the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) Bureau of Water, updated the public and delivered a presentation explaining the dry well situation in Hampton County. After giving the presentation and fielding questions from the audience regarding why their wells were going dry, the representatives agreed to provide a pamphlet for Hampton County Citizens regarding facts when getting a well drilled. Council thanked the representatives for their presentation. (See Attachment #1- Presentation)

APPOINTMENT(S) TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

There were no appointment(s).

RESOLUTION(S)

PROCLAMATION FOR LAKE WARREN STATE PARK VOTE-A-THON:

Moved by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to approve the proclamation for Lake Warren State Park Vote-A-Thon. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE(S)

**THIRD READING TO ORDINANCE 2011-013, ACCEPTANCE OF THE GENERAL
OBLIGATION BONDS IN THE FORM OF A PROMISSORY NOTE FOR \$500,000 FROM
THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA):**

Moved by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to give third reading to Ordinance #2011-013, Ordinance #2011-013, Acceptance of the General Obligation Bonds in the Form of a Promissory Note for \$500,000 From United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Motion carried unanimously.

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BID(S)

BID AWARD AND CONTRACT APPROVAL FOR PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING REPORT (PER) FOR THE TOWN OF YEMASSEE'S WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT:

Ms. Sandy Fowler, Executive Director, Hampton County Economic Development Commission, came before council to ask for approval on the bid and contract for the Preliminary Engineering Report of the Town of Yemassee's Wastewater Treatment Plant. **Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Haulsee, to award the bid and approve the contract for the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) for the Town of Yemassee's Wastewater Treatment Plant to BP Barber. Motion carried unanimously. (See Attachment #2)

BID FOR ADMINISTRATION BUILDING-EAST REPAIRS (FORMERLY SPEIGHTS AND RUNYAN):

Moved by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to award the bid for the Administrator Building-East Repairs (Formerly Speights & Runyan) to Gooding Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$31,090.00 (thirty-one thousand, ninety dollars). Motion carried unanimously. (See Attachment #3)

COUNCIL'S BRIEFING(S)

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE (CHAIRMAN GRAY):

Chairman Gray gave his update. (See Attachment #4)

COUNCIL'S DISCUSSION POINT(S):

There were no discussion point(s).

REPORTS TO COUNCIL

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

NATURAL RESOURCE DISTRICT – PART OF THE NEW LAND USE ORDINANCE (MR. RANDY CREWS, BUILDING INSPECTOR, HAMPTON COUNTY):

Mr. Crews recognized Ms. O'Cain and Ms. Boles, Planning Commission Members, before presenting on their behalf the Planning Commission a new section of the Land Use Ordinance, Natural Resource District – Part of the New Land Use Ordinance; it was presented to council as information.

CORONER'S FUEL BUDGET:

Administrator Graham reported to council that the Coroner has used $\frac{3}{4}$ of his fuel budget. Council asked that the Administrator talk to the Coroner regarding the matter and report back to council. Administrator Graham asked that council speak with the coroner. Council asked the Administrator to request the coroner to come to the next meeting and explain the fuel situation.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

There were no executive session matters.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Gray adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p. m.