

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL'S MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY; OCTOBER 6, 2014; 6:00 P. M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, HAMPTON COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER
200 JACKSON AVENUE, EAST, HAMPTON, SC**

Hampton County Council held a special meeting on Monday, October 6, 2014, 5:00 p. m., Council Chambers, Hampton County Administrative Center, Hampton, South Carolina. Council Member(s) present: Charles H. "Buddy" Phillips, Vice Chairman; Christopher B. Haulsee, Roy Hollingsworth and Shedron Williams. Council Member(s) absent: Hugh B. Gray, Chairman. Staff present: Sabrena P. Graham, 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 Chairman Gray.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Williams, to approve the agenda with the following revisions, (1) Delete Items #3.1.1 – 3.1.4, (2) Add Item #14.3, Executive Session, Legal Matter and (3) Add Item #15.3, Report Out of Executive Session Regarding Legal Matter, Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

There were no public hearing(s).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

MR. GEORGE CANON, CITIZEN, REGARDING THE LAND USE ORDINANCE:

Mr. George Canon came before council to state that the ordinance was a Hodgepodge of ordinances from surrounding counties. He stated that he has spent a lot of time in Hampton County. A lot of housing around in Hampton County is not what is described in the ordinance. People should be able to stay on their property as long as occupied. He informed council that the e property that

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does not fit the guidelines of the ordinance cannot be grandfathered in. He stated that Flag lots are in non-compliance. Mr. Canon stated that the Land Use Ordinance as presented goes way over zoning. He stated that he did not think that the ordinance will work here. Mr. Canon stated that he has a son; his son and son's fiancé may wish to come and settle back in Hampton County, but if the ordinance passes, he will not be able to do so; this ordinance purges the lower class and fixed income people from living in Hampton County.

PRESENTATION(S)

**MS. DEIDRE LAWTON REGARDING I.A.N. FOR PEOPLE WITH DOWNS
SYNDROME AND THANKS FOR ACTION TAKEN ON THE RECREATION
DEPARTMENT FLOOR:**

Ms. Lawton came before council to make a presentation regarding I.A.N., an organization for people with Down's Syndrome. She invited council to the Buddy Walk which is sponsored by the National Downs Syndrome Organization. The Buddy Walk is similar to Relay for Life, but the Buddy Walk is to bring awareness to the community about Downs Syndrome. The walk will be at 9:00 a. m. on November 1, 2014. All surrounding counties are invited Allendale, Beaufort, Colleton, Bamberg and Jasper.

Ms. Lawton also thanked Council for replacing the floor at the Hampton County Recreation Department.

**MS. SUZANNE PEEPLES, DIRECTOR, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, REGARDING
INVITATION TO MOCK DRILL:**

Ms. Peeples came before council to invite council to a mock drill to be held on October 31, 2014 in regards to the recent bomb threat. The EOC – Look, Learn and Listen. The sheriff's office, fire department and EMS will be participating. She also stated that they will have a mock drill on March 9, 2015 at the South Carolina National Guard Armory regarding a Train Derailment.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

**MR. KAQUAN HOUSEY REGARDING CAR SHOW AND DRAG RACE AT THE
HAMPTON COUNTY AIRPORT:**

Mr. Housey came before council to talk about the race and car show. He stated that he still wanted to have the car show and drag race. He stated that a bunch of people have been contacted already. He said he had already sent out flyers when it had passed.

**MR. BRANTLEY REGARDING CAR SHOW AND DRAG RACE AT THE HAMPTON
COUNTY AIRPORT:**

Mr. Brantley came before council and stated that he has put a lot of money and time into the Car Show and Drag Race. He stated that he has put his name out there. He has paid for a lot of people to come here, and he's losing a whole lot of money and discouraging his name. He informed council that he was bringing a lot of people a this was bringing his promotional name down and losing a lot of money.

**MR. FRANK GAUEZ, UNITED STATES MARINE CORP, RETIRED AND HAMPTON
COUNTY CITIZEN:**

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Mr. Gauez came before council regarding the Land Use Ordinance. Mr. Gauez stated that he owns a Flag Lot. He stated that he liked where he lived and doesn't understand why the Flag Lot is going to be non-compliant in the proposed Land Use Ordinance. He stated that he would like to know who, why and what's behind it? Chairman Gray replied that it was long away from being an ordinance.

Council Member Williams stated that there are too many concerns regarding the Hampton County Land Development Use Ordinance. **Moved** by Council Member Williams, seconded by Council Member Hollingsworth, to rescind first reading to the Hampton County Land Development Use Ordinance. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION(S)

MR. SCOTT ALLAN, FINANCIAL CONSULTANT FOR HAMPTON SCHOOL DISTRICT 2:

Mr. Scott Allan, Financial Consultant for Hampton School District 2, came before council to give an update regarding Hampton School District 2's finances. (See Attachment #1 – Report)

MS. BARBARA JOHNSON, HOME CONSORTIUM AGREEMENT, LOWCOUNTRY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS:

Ms. Barbara Johnson, HOME Consortium Agreement, Lowcountry Council of Governments(LCOG), came before council to explain the requirement regarding the HOME Consortium Agreement and to inform council that homes have been identified for rehabilitation and are submitted for county's match and funding from LCOG. She stated that the renewal agreement is for five (5) contracts. **Moved** by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Hollingsworth, to approve the rehabilitation amounts for the five contracts as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

APPOINTMENT(S)

HAMPTON COUNTY TAX APPEALS BOARD:

Council voted by secret ballot to appoint Don Curtis DeLoach, Jr. to the Hampton County Tax Appeals Board.

RESOLUTION(S)

There were no resolution(s)

ORDINANCE(S)

SECOND READING TO AMENDING THE ANIMAL ORDINANCE 2002:

Moved by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Hollingsworth, to give second reading to Amending the Animal Ordinance 2002. Motion carried unanimously.

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FIRST READING TO THE ORDINANCE AMENDING THE AGREEMENT WITH COLLETON COUNTY TO ADD METER OF AMERICA, INC. (PROJECT METER):

Moved by Council Member Williams, seconded by Council Member Hollingsworth, to give first reading to the Ordinance Amending our Multi County Park Agreement with Colleton County to Add Meter of America, Inc. (Project Meter). Motion carried unanimously.

FIRST READING TO THE ORDINANCE AMENDING OUR MULTI-COUNTY PARK AGREEMENT WITH COLLETON COUNTY TO ADD PALMETTO AERO LLC (PROJECT DENT):

Moved by Council Member Hollingsworth, seconded by Council Member Williams, to give first reading to the Ordinance Amending our Multi County Park Agreement with Colleton County to Add Palmetto Aero LLC (Project Dent). Motion carried unanimously.

BID(S)

There were no bid(s).

COUNCIL BRIEFING(S)

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE:

Chairman Gray gave his update. (See Attachment #2 – Update)

DISCUSSION POINT(S):

There were no discussion point(s).

ACTION REGARDING UPDATE ON TAX COLLECTIONS FOR NEVAMAR AND ECOGY BIOFUELS:

Council Member Hollingsworth had some concerns regarding Nevamar's closing and wanted to know about property taxes owed by Nevamar to know if there was any conversation with the CEO's, etc. Also, he wanted an update on tax owed by Ecogy Biofuel Facility in Estill with the property taxes being delinquent for many years. Administrator Graham stated that there was no conversation, taxes are billed, but there is a process in which collections are made. She stated that she will provide a summary of taxes owed by Ecogy at the next council meeting.

DISCUSSION OF HAMPTON-VARNVILLE AIRPORT IMPROVEMENTS:

Council Member Hollingsworth stated that he considers the airport a key item and any individual can come in Hampton County in an operative airport. He stated that the airport was cited back in 2012. Council Member Hollingsworth stated that he would like to see the Airport Commission come up with a Comprehensive Plan to benefit through Economic Development. There are two counties adjacent, Jasper and Allendale Counties. Council Member Hollingsworth stated that he would like to have a plan in hand by February when council starts on budget preparation.

DISCUSSION OF THE ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S POSITION:

Council discussed the ad for the County Administrator's Position. Discussed the long and short version.

DISCUSSION OF BOARD APPOINTMENT:

Council will ask towns to submit names of citizens to help fill vacancies on boards.

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REPORT(S) TO COUNCIL

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Miley Fire Station Update

Mr. Gregg Cook came before council and gave an update regarding the Miley Fire Station. He stated that permit filled out for PERK test. He is waiting for a response. Also, he shared with council that they are waiting on an Encroachment Permit for Palmetto Electric to drop the pole.

Council on Aging Program Update (Ms. Tammy Washington, Director, Hampton County Council on Aging)

Ms. Tammy Washington, Director, Hampton County Council on Aging, presented a resolution on 5317 New Freedom Funds. It is an 80/20 match which is \$44,000 (Forty-four thousand dollars) to purchase two vehicles for Council on Aging. **Moved** by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Vice Chairman Phillips, to accept the grant. Motion carried unanimously.

Change Order #2 to Potter Construction to Perform Corrective Actions on Water Lines Installation

Ms. Fowler, Executive Director, Hampton County Economic Development, came before council to present Change Order #2 from Potter Construction to perform corrective actions on water lines and installment to the Spec Building in Multi County Industrial Park. **Moved** by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Hollingsworth, to approve Change Order # 2 as presented. Motion carried unanimously. (See Attachment #3 – Change Order)

Financial Update on CPST

Council received a financial update regarding Capital Projects Sales Tax (CPST).

EXECUTIVE SESSION

LEGAL MATTER REGARDING ASSESSOR'S OFFICE:

Moved by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Hollingsworth to go into executive session. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORT OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

LEGAL MATTER REGARDING ASSESSOR'S OFFICE:

Moved by Council Member Williams, seconded by Council Member Haulsee, to come out of executive session. Motion carried unanimously. **After coming out of executive session**, Chairman Gray announced that Council discussed a legal matter regarding the Assessor's Office. **Moved** by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Hollingsworth, to contract with Ms. Malane Pike to represent the county with the Hampton County Tax Assessor's appeal. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Hollingsworth, to adjourn.

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Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Gray adjourned the meeting.