

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL'S MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY; OCTOBER 20, 2014; 6:00 P. M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, HAMPTON COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER
200 JACKSON AVENUE, EAST, HAMPTON, SC**

Hampton County Council held its regular meeting on Monday, October 20, 2014, 6:00 p. m., Council Chambers, Hampton County Administrative Center, Hampton, South Carolina. Council Member(s) present: Hugh B. Gray, Chairman; Christopher B. Haulsee, Roy Hollingsworth, Charles H. "Buddy" Phillips, Vice Chairman and Shedron Williams. Staff present: Sabrena P. Graham, Administrator; Aline Newton, Clerk to Council and A. G. Solomons, Jr., County Attorney. Media present: 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 Haulsee.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

- ~~3.1.1 September 15, 2014 Hampton County Council Meeting Minutes~~
- ~~3.1.2 September 29, 2014 Hampton County Council Special Meeting Minutes~~
- ~~3.1.3 October 6, 2014 Hampton County Council Meeting Minutes~~
- ~~3.1.4 Codes Enforcement Report for Litter and Animal Control~~

and the October 20, 2014 Hampton County Council Meeting Agenda with the following revisions:
(1) Delete Items #3.1.1 – 3.1.4, 13.1.1, 13.1.4, 14.1 and 15.1. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

There were no public hearing(s).

PUBLIC COMMENT(S)

MRS. POLLY KNIGHT, CITIZEN, REGARDING HAMPTON COUNTY LAND USE DEVELOPMENT PLAN:

Mrs. Knight came before council to inform council that the proposed land use plan is not for
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Hampton County, our county, and council should stop the process of this land use development plan. She expressed that Hampton Contains are rural people in a rural county. She stated, "We may be rural, but we are not stupid!" (See Attachment #1 – Comments)

MS. BARBARA GRAY REGARDING LAND USE DEVELOPMENT PLAN:

Ms. Gray stated that she is saying what everyone has said. This will hurt low to middle income people. She wanted to know why industry couldn't locate in the industrial parks and not in places that are not for industry. If it's natural resources, etc. don't try to industrialize areas that are not industry?

TIM MINCHEY:

Mr. Minchey came before council because he is concerned. He stated that he sells real estate. He stated that the citizens look for the county council members to protect the citizens. This is why citizens vote council in office. Mr. Minchey stated that he sells one or two acres to people and sometimes it takes two or more years to pay for the property and people need to know that the intention for purchasing the property is available after they have purchased. People don't need to go through a lot of red tape or changes. Council Member Haulsee stated that he feels that a lot of changes needed to be made to the proposed Land Development Ordinance. Council Member Williams stated that this is why council asked the Planning Commission to hold hearings after they presented the ordinance to council. Council Member Hollingsworth reported that the Land Use Plan is designed for Planning Commission and the task was given to a person who was hired to write the document, but citizens have expressed themselves and there was about fifty persons who were not in favor. All of the input will be considered. Council Member Phillips informed Mr. Minchey that it would be good if you or the paper would relay the information to calm the fear of the people; he reported that council will not be doing anything low board or underhanded. Council reiterated that the proposed Land Use Ordinance is nowhere close to being passed.

MR. NEIL SULLIVAN:

Mr. Sullivan stated that he went to a meeting, but the Planning Commission did not have a quorum. Mr. Sullivan stated that council should have read the ordinance before acting on it. He stated that the Nuisance Ordinance is an inner city ordinance. He stated that council should read the documents before proposing to the people. He stated that he moved to Hampton County, because it was a rural county.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes were deferred under the consent agenda.

PRESENTATION(S)

There were no presentation(s).

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APPOINTMENT(S)

NEW LIFE CENTER BOARD:

Council voted by secret ballot to appoint Chuck Boswell, Perry Russ Bullard and Paul Hankey to the Hampton County Economic Development Commission.

RESOLUTION(S)

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND RESOLUTION:

Moved by Council Member Williams, seconded by Council Member Haulsee, to adopt the Local Government Fund Resolution. Vice Chairman Phillips stated that council should also write a letter asking to fund fully. Also, ask that they meet with council to discuss the matter. Motion carried unanimously.

**PURPLE HEART PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING HAMPTON COUNTY AS A
PURPLE HEART COUNTY (HAMPTON COUNTY VETERANS' AFFAIRS
OFFICE):**

Ms. Betty Hodges, Veterans' Affairs Officer, came before council to present the proclamation. She stated that there are many veterans who have served and earned purple hearts that live in Hampton County and to acknowledge their efforts and valor she asked that council proclaim Hampton County as a Purple Heart County. **Moved** by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Williams, to approve the Purple Heart Proclamation proclaiming Hampton County as a Purple Heart County. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE(S)

**ORDINANCE 2014-013, ORDINANCE AMENDING OUR MULTI COUNTY PARK
AGREEMENT WITH COLLETON COUNTY TO ADD METER OF AMERICA, INC.
(PROJECT METER):**

Moved by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Williams, to give second reading to Ordinance 2014-013, Ordinance Amending our Multi County Park Agreement with Colleton County to Add Meter of America, Inc. (Project Meter). Motion carried unanimously.

**ORDINANCE 2014-014, ORDINANCE AMENDING OUR MULTI COUNTY PARK
AGREEMENT WITH COLLETON COUNTY TO ADD PALMETTO AERO LLC
(PROJECT DENT):**

Moved by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Williams, to give second reading to Ordinance 2014-014, 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'S BRIEFING(S)

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE:

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

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DISCUSSION POINTS (COUNCIL MEMBERS):

There were no discussion point(s).

ACTION ON RESIGNATION LETTER FROM MR. LEE ELLIS, AIRPORT COMMISSION MEMBER:

By **acclamation**, Council accepted the resignation letter from Mr. Lee Ellis, Airport Commission Member.

AUDIT REQUEST (COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS):

Council Member Williams stated that since Hampton County has lost its top four individuals (Finance Director, Grants Coordinator, Administrator, Administrative Assistant to the Administrator), the gate keepers of the county; he would like to request an audit. There was discussion. Administrator Graham wanted to know if he was talking about the annual audit. Council Member Williams stated that he would like the county to hire a firm different from that of the annual audit to conduct an independent audit. Council wanted to know if he was asking for the six months not covered by the annual audit. Council Member Williams stated that he was asking for an audit to be performed by an independent auditor other than the one that performs the audit for the county annually. **Moved** by Council Member Williams, seconded by Council Member Hollingsworth, to have a six months audit from July 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014 performed by an independent auditor. Council Members Hollingsworth and Williams voted in favor and Council Members Gray, Haulsee and Phillips voted against. Motion failed.

REPORT(S) TO COUNCIL

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Assessor's Office Report and Update by Mr. Lester Warren, Hampton County Assessor

Mr. Lester Warren, Assessor, Hampton County, came before council to update council regarding new requirement for appraisers (Legislative Act #180) and the countywide reassessment, etc. (See Attachment #3 – Countywide Reassessment). Council thanked Mr. Warren for his report.

SC Hazard Mitigation Grant Application

Ms. Suzanne Peeples came before to council to request to apply for the South Carolina Hazard Mitigation Grant. She stated that there is a matching requirement that is not budgeted. She stated that Hampton County can apply for the generators for critical facilities. She stated that the Generators will be placed at the radio stations (WDOG, Allendale and WBHC, Hampton) and B.T. Deloach (backup EOC). The County must agree to provide matching funds of up to \$6,500 dollars as part of the application. This is the 25% match of cost sharing and in-kind match of \$24,000. The county will also be responsible for cost of fencing. The remaining cost is for installation-pouring concrete, etc. Grants awards will take place in March 2015, still in this fiscal year. The project period will be short. Matching funds will be needed in this fiscal year. Annual service of generators will be approximately \$1,100. **Moved** by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Williams, to approve with funding not to exceed \$6,500 (Six thousand, five hundred dollars). Council Member Hollingsworth stated that he had some concerns about grant dollars intended for Hampton County being used for another county, Allendale County.

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Ms. Peeples stated that they all work together as a part of mutual aid and many people listen to WDOG in Hampton County as a form of communication. Motion carried with Council Member Haulsee abstaining.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

CONTRACTUAL MATTER:

Moved by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Vice Chairman Phillips, to go into executive session to discuss a contractual matter. Motion carried unanimously. **Moved** by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Williams to come out of executive session. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORT OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

CONTRACTUAL MATTER:

Moved by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Vice Chairman Phillips, to approve the writing of a letter regarding the state property. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Gray reported that council was apprised of state property. County Administrator will write letter.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Vice Chairman Phillips, to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Gray adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p. m.