

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL'S MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY; AUGUST 17, 2015; 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, August 17, 2015, 6:00 p. m., Council Chambers, Hampton County Administrative Center, Hampton, South Carolina. Council Member(s) present: Christopher B. Haulsee; Roy Hollingsworth, Vice Chairman; Charles H. "Buddy" Phillips, Isaac Smith and Shedron D. Williams, Chairman. Staff present: Rose Dobson-Elliott, Administrator and Aline Newton, Clerk to Council. Media present: Hampton County Guardian. The meeting was advertised as prescribed by law.

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Williams called the meeting to order.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**INVOCATION:**

Council Member Smith gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice Chairman Hollingsworth.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**ADOPTION OF THE AUGUST 21, 2015 HAMPTON COUNTY AGENDA:**

Chairman Williams asked if there were any amendments to the agenda. Vice Chairman Hollingsworth stated that he would like to add the following: (1) Add Item 9.1, Resolution Regarding Advocating all local governments who receive support pursuant to the State Aid to Subdivisions Act file a joint lawsuit against the State of South Carolina to require it to appropriate General Fund Revenue to the Local Government Fund in accordance with the Act's funding formula, (2) Add Item 15.1, Executive Session Regarding Project Vittorio, (3) Add Item 15.2, Report out of Executive Session Regarding Project Vittorio, (4) Add Item 13.1.1, CPST Fourth Quarter Report, (5) Add Third Reading to Ordinance 2015-006, Transferring of Property in the Industrial Park to LRWS and (6) Add to Consent Agenda the Authorization of the County Administrator to Release Bid Documents and Start Process. **Moved** by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Hollingsworth, to approve the Consent Agenda:

- ~~3.1.1 June 1, 2015 Hampton County Council Meeting Minutes (Deferred)~~
- 3.1.2 July 20, 2015 Hampton County Council Special Meeting Minutes
- 3.1.3 July 20, 2015 Hampton County Council Meeting Minutes
- 3.1.4 August 10, 2015 Hampton County Council Special Meeting Minutes

and the August 17, 2015 Hampton County Council Meeting Agenda with the revisions as requested by Vice Chairman Hollingsworth: Motion carried unanimously.

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**PUBLIC HEARING(S)**

**ORDINANCE 2015-006, ORDINANCE TO TRANSFER PROPERTY AND INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE LOWCOUNTRY REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL PARK (LRIP) TO THE LOWCOUNTRY REGIONAL WATER SYSTEM (LRWS):**

Chairman Williams opened the public hearing to receive public comments regarding Ordinance 2015-006, Ordinance to Transfer Property and Infrastructure in the Lowcountry Regional Industrial Park (LRIP) to the Lowcountry Regional Water System (LRWS). Ms. Barbara Gray stated that she has stated that the county should not give the property to the Lowcountry Regional Water System. She stated that LRWS have lied to the people. Ms. Gray expressed that the land belongs to the citizens of Hampton County and she does not agree with the county giving away the property that belongs to the citizens of Hampton County. Ms. Gray shared that she did not want the water from LRWS. Mr. Douglas Mickens stated that he was against the county giving the property to the Lowcountry Regional Water System. He shared that the citizens of Hampton County's backs are against the wall already. The water rates are increasing. He stated that a lot of people don't bother coming out to the meetings, because they feel that their voices aren't heard. Mr. Willard E. Wilson stated that this was a possible income for the county. He felt that there was no preparation of anything. He stated that he could not believe that the county officials would give away potential sources of income for the county. He stated that the county should lease or sell the property, but don't just give it away. Mr. Breeze Winn wanted to know why they were run out of North Carolina and Columbia. Ms. Peggy O'Banner wanted to know what the pros and cons were. She stated that the citizens could not make an informed decision if they did not have the information. Ms. Libby Green stated that she disagreed with the county giving away the property to the LRWS. Mr. Brian Burgess, General Manager, Lowcountry Regional Water System, informed council that the transfer of assets was to a public agency not a private agency. He shared the history of how the lowcountry water and sewer systems came together to form a regional system to try to resolve issues for sewer systems to meet compliance. Mr. Burgess stated that they are losing focus on why they came together. Mr. Burgess stated intensely that if the county does not transfer the property, LRWS is not going to stop tomorrow. The LRWS is here to assist in helping industries to come. Mr. Willard E. Wilson stated that the water system is supposed to be a partnership not a dictatorship. Mayor Terry Wright, Town of Brunson, He explained that small towns tried to get a countywide system but did not get funds and survived by contracting out. He stated that the Town of Brunson joined the LRWS and the Town of Brunson does not want their water/sewer system back to run. Council Member Phillips stated that they have been at this for seven years. County council instigated it. He stated that council saw chance to come together to create a water/sewer system. We had no money and everyone wanted a water system. He stated that once get a water system we could provide to the Industrial Park and hopefully entice some manufacturing. He stated that we, the county, have been dealing with this for years. Council Member Phillips stated that he thinks it's a good thing. Mr. Breeze Winn stated that when there is something to get done, then we need to roll up our sleeves and get it done. The citizens have a lot of questions about this water system. Ms. Barbara Gray stated that the county is just getting a countywide water system. She stated that she does not want their water, and she will fight it. Mr. Douglas Mickens stated that to give up your water, you sign and you lose. He explained to council that the county should not tie ourselves into anything, because we are already tapped out. Citizens are paying high taxes and now water. Vice Chairman Hollingsworth stated that he was glad to hear what the citizens had to say at the public hearing. He stated that he hoped that the citizens read the ordinance and the minutes. Vice Chairman Hollingsworth stated that initially when he heard about the system he was not in favor. He and some colleagues rescinded the ordinance and in doing so placed stipulations and rescinded to protect the county. He stated that he believes in regionalization which the county would have the

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opportunity to add other things to the property. As a Clemson agent, agents were there to help others help themselves become productive citizens. He informed the public that the county gave Clemson University the Aquaculture Center. Clemson is in the process of giving that property back to the county. If you have not read the ordinance, read the ordinance. Where were you? Some of you were here. He stated that the way that the ordinance sits now look better. **Ms. Mary Robinson** stated that she should not have to come here to read that ordinance. She worked for the school board. She stated that the ordinance should be posted on the website; this is 2015. A citizen should not have to come to this building to pick up or view an ordinance. It should be accessible on the website. **Mr. Ronald Winn** stated that he was guilty of not checking. Chairman Williams closed the public hearing.

**PUBLIC COMMENT(S)**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes approved under the Consent Agenda.

**PRESENTATION(S)**

**MS. ANGELA STROTHER, HAMPTON COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD:**

Ms. Angela Strother, Hampton County Library Board, came before council to thank council for the library and the great technology. She informed council that the patron county is way up at the Estill Branch. The Hampton County Library has moved to the Walnut Street. She stated that school started today in Hampton County and the schools need a new library. She stated that part of the place that the money is going to hospitals, schools and library. She informed council that a library is a place where all people of all walks of life come to intermingle. She stated the \$5,000 is going to be used to buy books. She stated that every computer is taken in the library. Ms. Strother stated that she is glad that the council is expeditious in getting the new library on the way. Council thanked Ms. Strother.

**MS. PATRICE CONNORS, HOSPICE CARE:**

Ms. Patrice Connors, Hospice Care, before council to inform council and citizens about hospice services and the changing role of hospice is not only for the end of life.

**MR. SCOTT ALLEN, FINANCIAL CONSULTANT, HAMPTON DISTRICT 2,  
REGARDING UPDATE FOR HAMPTON SCHOOL DISTRICT 2:**

Mr. Scott Allen, Financial Consultant, Hampton District 2, Regarding Update for Hampton School District 2, came before council to present. (See Attachment 1 – Report)

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**APPOINTMENT(S)**

There were no appointment(s).

**RESOLUTION(S)/PROCLAMATIONS**

**RESOLUTION ADVOCATING ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENTS WHO RECEIVE SUPPORT PURSUANT TO THE STATE AID TO SUBDIVISIONS ACT TO FILE A JOINT LAWSUIT AGAINST THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA TO REQUIRE IT TO APPROPRIATE GENERAL FUND REVENUE TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ACT'S FUNDING FORMULA:**

**Moved** by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Vice Chairman Hollingsworth, adopt the resolution advocating all local governments who receive support pursuant to the state aid to subdivisions act to file a joint lawsuit against the State of South Carolina to require it to appropriate General Fund Revenue to the local government fund in accordance with the act's funding formula. Motion carried unanimously.

**ORDINANCE(S)**

**THIRD READING TO ORDINANCE 2015-006, ORDINANCE TO TRANSFER PROPERTY AND INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE LOWCOUNTRY REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL PARK (LRIP) TO THE LOWCOUNTRY REGIONAL WATER SYSTEM (LRWS):**

**Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Haulsee, to give third reading to Ordinance 2015-006, Ordinance to Transfer Property and Infrastructure in the Lowcountry Regional Industrial Park (LRIP) to the Lowcountry Regional Water System (LRWS). Motion carried with Council Members Haulsee, Hollingsworth, Phillips and Smith voting in favor and Council Member Williams voting against.

**SECOND READING TO THE ORDINANCE FOR THE SALE OF THE PARKER BUILDING TO SOUTHERNCAROLINA ALLIANCE:**

**Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Haulsee, to give second reading to the ordinance for the sale of the Parker Building to SouthernCarolina Alliance. Motion carried unanimously.

**BID(S)**

**AUTHORIZATION OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO RELEASE BID DOCUMENTS AND START PROCESS:**

**Moved** by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Smith, to give authorization to the County Administrator and staff to release bid documents and start process. Motion carried unanimously.

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**COUNCIL'S BRIEFING(S)**

**DISCUSSIN POINTS (COUNCIL MEMBERS):**

**Vice Chairman Hollingsworth**

Vice Chairman Hollingsworth stated that WJCL wanted pictures of council. Vice Chairman Hollingsworth made available a request from the Department of Juvenile Justice regarding placing "No Smoking" signs in the tobacco free building. Administrator Dobson-Elliott stated that they have signs in the building, but she believes that they want signs with different wording. She will refer the matter to Mr. Dobie Hiers to look into.

**DISCUSSION OF THE COUNTY PURCHASING AND PROCUREMENT POLICY AND PROCEDURES:**

Chairman Williams stated that he asked for a copy of the Procurement Policy and stated that there was an update to the policy in 2012. He asked if the county was using the updated policy. Administrator Dobson-Elliott stated that she will check.

**CLERK'S REPORT:**

The Clerk to Council stated that she was sending out Progress Reports for the boards and commissions to complete and return. She also stated that she would be setting up trainings for the boards and commissions.

**REPORT(S) TO COUNCIL**

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

- Hampton County's Workmen's Compensation Modifier is a 3 way tie for 5<sup>th</sup>. She would like to thank Mr. Dobie Hiers, Risk Manager.
- Community Development Block Grant submitted for fire trucks for the Towns of Yemassee and Furman. The pre-application has been done.
- Vice Chairman Hollingsworth wanted an update on the Miley Fire Station. Administrator Dobson-Elliott stated that it is just a few housekeeping issues.
- Promise Zone meeting attended by county people and cross section of meeting had different voices.
- The Airport Commission is meeting monthly and talking on two projects, self-service fuel and FAA provide lights. Also, Allendale will have a fly in.
- Updates coming for changes to website.
- Wesley, Victor and John came to help move furniture. Thanks.

**MR. RONALD "BREEZE" WINN:**

Mr. Winn stated that libraries are very important. He stated that they need one in Gifford and Yemassee.

**MS. CHRISTINE JAMES, FINANCE DIRECTOR REGARDING SECOND QUARTER CPST REPORT:**

Ms. James came before council to present the second quarter CPST Report. (See Attachment 2 – Report).

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MATTERS REGARDING PROJECT VITTORIO AND  
PROJECT BEACON UPDATE AND CONTRACTUAL MATTERS:**

**Moved** by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to go into executive session to discuss economic development matters regarding Project Vittorio and Project Beacon Update and contractual matter(s). Motion carried unanimously.

**REPORT OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MATTERS REGARDING PROJECT VITTORIO AND  
PROJECT BEACON UPDATE AND CONTRACTUAL MATTERS:**

**Moved** by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to come out of executive session regarding economic development matters regarding Project Vittorio and Project Beacon Update and contractual matter(s). Motion carried unanimously.

**SECOND READING BY TITLE ONLY TO PROJECT BEACON:**

**Moved** by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Vice Chairman Hollingsworth, to give second reading by title only to Project Beacon. Motion carried unanimously.

**FIRST READING BY TITLE ONLY TO PROJECT VITTIRIO:**

**Moved** by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Smith, to give first reading by title only to Project Vittirio. Motion carried unanimously.

**ADOPTION OF THE INDUCEMENT RESOLUTION REGARDING PROJECT  
VITTIRIO:**

**Moved** by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Vice Chairman Hollingsworth, adopt the Inducement Resolution regarding Project Vittirio. Motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved** by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Smith, to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Williams adjourned the meeting at 9:10 p. m.