

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL'S MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY; APRIL 4, 2016; 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, April 4, 2016, 6:00 p. m., Council Chambers, Hampton County Administrative Center, Hampton, South Carolina. Council Member(s) present: Roy Hollingsworth, Vice Chairman; Charles H. "Buddy" Phillips and Shedron D. Williams, Chairman. Council Member(s) absent: Christopher B. Haulsee and Isaac Smith. Staff present: Rose Dobson-Elliott, Administrator and Aline Newton, Clerk to Council and A. G. Solomons, Jr., County Attorney. 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 Council.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

ADOPTION OF THE APRIL 4, 2016 HAMPTON COUNTY CONSENT AGENDA:

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

- 3.1.1 March 7, 2016 County Council Meeting Minutes
- 3.1.2 March 21, 2016 County Council Meeting Minutes
- 3.1.3 Resolution #R2016-00, the Hampton County Economic Development Ambassador of the Year Award

and the April 4, 2016 Hampton County Council Meeting Agenda with the following revisions: (1)Add Item #7.4, Dr. Doug McTeer, Superintendent, Hampton School District #1, Regarding Budget, (2) Ms. Suzanne Peebles, Emergency Manager, Hampton County, Regarding Hazard Mitigation and (3) Presentation from Representatives from the Town of Yemassee, Council Members Anderson and Jinks, Regarding Concerns. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

There were no public hearing(s).

PUBLIC COMMENT(S)

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There were no public comment(s).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes approved under the Consent Agenda.

PRESENTATION(S)

**PRESENTATION OF THE HAMPTON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
AMBASSADOR OF THE YEAR AWARD:**

Mr. Shedron Williams, Chairman, Hampton County Council and Mr. Brantley Strickland, Hampton County Project Manager, SouthernCarolina Alliance and Hampton County Economic Development Commission presented to Mr. Marco Genoni the Hampton County Economic Development Ambassador of the Year Award. Mr. Strickland commented that everyone has been hearing about Project Vittorio (Hampton County Spec Building). He stated that Mr. Genoni's business is located in that building. He informed everyone that Mr. Genoni is from Milan, Italy. Council thanked Mr. Genoni for his investment in Hampton County.

**MS. NANCY MORGAN, DIRECTOR, HELPING HAND CENTER, INC., REGARDING
PROPOSAL:**

Ms. Nancy Morgan, Director, Helping Hand Center, Inc. came before council and informed council about the services that her program assists. She stated that her program helps those who fall through the cracks when it comes to receiving services from other agencies. She stated that they have helped seniors get roofs put on their homes; those persons who may be over by a couple of dollars to receive help from other agencies, help with the checking of blood pressure and blood sugar of elderly persons,etc. She stated that they started out with a \$2,500 grant and donations from others. She stated that they operated on a \$15, 200 budget. Ms. Morgan stated that they just spend \$4,00 on a project last week. Council thanked Ms. Morgan for her presentation.

**MS. JENNIFER YOUMANS, GRANTS ADMINISTRATOR, REGARDING CITIZEN
PARTICIPATION COORDINATOR:**

Ms. Jennifer Youmans, Grants Administrator, Regarding Citizen Participation Coordinator, came before council to explain about the monitoring from Lowcountry Council of Governments (LCOG) and the Civil Rights Compliance for the county regarding receiving grants, etc.:

Civil Rights
ADA (Section 504)
Title VI
Limited English Proficiency (LEP)
Section 3

Ms. Youmans explained the requirements of the county for each item. She reported to council that all had been under Mr. Dobie Hiers, ADA and all have been rolled under her except ADA (Section 504). She stated that Lowcountry Council of Governments (LCOG) did a monitoring and some information needed to be updated on the requirements. Council thanked Ms. Youmans for her presentation.

**DR. DOUG McTEER, SUPERINTENDENT, HAMPTON SCHOOL DISTRICT 1,
REGARDING BUDGET:**

Dr. McTeer came before council and explained that Hampton School District 1 received a letter of the 5.7% cap. He explained the breakdown of what the state and the county was paying regarding

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the EFA. Dr. McTeer reported that there would be an additional cost to the county of \$73,000 (Seventy-three thousand dollars). He asked that the county keep that in mind when reviewing their budget. Chairman Williams stated that Dr. McTeer would be retiring this year and publically thanked him for all of his service to Hampton County.

MS. SUZANNE PEEPLES, DIRECTOR, HAMPTON COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, REGARDING HAZARD MITIGATION:

Ms. Suzanne Peeples, Director, Hampton County Emergency Management, came before council regarding hazard mitigation. She explained that the Hazard Mitigation Plan had been updated by Lowcountry Council of Government (LCOG). The plan is a regional plan that included Hampton, Jasper and Colleton. The cost of the plan is \$30,000 (Thirty thousand dollars).

THE HONORABLE DANIEL ANDERSON, III AND THE HONORABLE JORDAN "JJ" JINKS, COUNCIL MEMBERS, THE TOWN OF YEMASSEE, REGARDING CONCERNS:

Town Council Members Anderson and Jinks came before council to discuss several concerns that citizens voiced to the Town Council. He thanked Chairman Williams, Vice Chairman Hollingsworth and Council Member Smith for coming down for the Public Forum for the Recreation Complex. Town Council Member Anderson

- Recreation Complex Forum – Citizens thought public forum was about Multi-Purpose Complex. Also, there is a concern about transportation, because there are a lot of poor people in the Yemassee, Camp Branch, Early Branch and outlying areas. It seems that everything is located in Hampton and the Yemassee area. How are they going to get to the Recreation Complex?
- Senior Citizen Center – Clay and when it rains, it's slippery and a rut on each side of the parking lot. They have been approached about drainage, senior citizen center. Leak in roof of Senior Citizen roof and water draining in fluorescent light fixture.
- He talked to the public works guys, and they said that they talked to Public Works – Water rolls and drainage backed-up-need to be cleaned out and roads need grading. Call up about roads, and they said they would be put on a list. These are county roads. Have a lot of concerns.

Council Member Anderson and Jinks relayed that these are a few of the concerns that the Town of Yemassee have. Administrator Dobson-Elliott stated that she Ms. Jennifer Youmans and Mr. Dobie Hiers went down and viewed the Senior Citizens Center. She reported that the building was pressure washed, but the ladies at the Senior Citizen Center did not know that they were supposed to send in a maintenance request regarding the exposed wires. Council Member Phillips stated that the senior parking lot needed to be addressed with the County Transportation Committee (CTC). He stated that the Town of Yemassee needed to contact the CTC and let them know that it is a county building. Town Council Members Anderson inquired about the fee that the Town of Yemassee is paying for animal control and not receiving the service. Administrator Dobson-Elliott stated that the Town of Yemassee is not paying Animal Control. The Public Works guy loads the animals up and was told that they have no room. Town Council Member Anderson stated that he will check into the matter. The Town Council Members also asked what was missing for the county to take over the fire protection. Administrator Dobson-Elliott stated that the title for the fire engine. Council Member Jinks explained that the town has an issue with their safe in which they believe that the title is in. Chief Cook stated that they may be able to

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apply for a lost title. Mr. Gregg Cook, Chief, Hampton County Fire Chief, stated that he has a meeting with the Volunteer Fire Fighters in the Town of Yemassee at 6:00 p. m. tomorrow. He reported that Yemassee is the only town that has 6-8 miles of interstate running through it. Town Council Member Jinks asked if they were looking at the existing buildings for the Multi-Purpose Center. Administrator Dobson-Elliott stated that the county does not want to lose all of its green space. She stated that they were looking at the old nursing home and the old senior buildings. Council Member Phillips asked how much acreage they were looking at. Administrator Dobson-Elliott stated that they make the properties work; they were looking at about two acres. Council Member Jinks wanted to know what position was the Multi-Purpose Building. Administrator Dobson-Elliott explained that the Multi-Purpose Building project is listed next to the last. Chairman Williams thanked Town Council Members Anderson and Jinks for bringing the info to them. Chairman Williams also recognized Town Council Member Peggy O'Banner who was in the audience.

RESOLUTION(S)/PROCLAMATION(S)

There were no resolution(s).

ORDINANCE(S)

POSSIBLE FIRST READING TO THE CAPITAL EQUIPMENT FINANCING

Chairman Williams stated that he had some concerns with the ordinance in regards to the creation of a corporation which would take away the authority of council in the capital financing ordinance. Vice Chairman Hollingsworth asked if the County Administrator could give a little more clarity. The bond attorney He stated that he has been on council, he has never seen the creation of a corporation for financing. He stated that there should be no corporation, but Hampton County Council should be listed. By acclamation, Council tabled the matter.

POSSIBLE FIRST READING TO THE HAMPTON COUNTY 2016-2017 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET:

Administrator Dobson-Elliott requested that council give first reading to the Hampton County 2016-2017 Fiscal Year Budget to last year's figure of \$13,249,885 (Thirteen million, two hundred forty-nine thousand, eight hundred eighty-five dollars). **Moved** by Vice Chairman Hollingsworth, seconded by Council Member Haulsee, to give first reading to the Hampton County 2016-2017 Fiscal Year Budget to last year's amount of \$13,249,885 (Thirteen million, two hundred forty-nine thousand, eight hundred eighty-five dollars). Motion carried unanimously.

BID(S)

There were no bid(s).

COUNCIL'S BRIEFING(S)

DISCUSSION POINTS (COUNCIL MEMBERS):

There were no discussion point(s).

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**DISCUSSION AND PRIORITIZATION OF HAMPTON COUNTY NEEDS
ASSESSMENT:**

By general consensus, Council tabled the discussion and prioritization of Hampton County Needs Assessment until the next meeting.

REPORT(S) TO COUNCIL

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Law Enforcement Complex Proposal

Administrator Dobson-Elliott explained that the Law Enforcement Complex was discussed. She stated that the cost to construct the roof for the Law Enforcement roof versus building a new Law Enforcement Complex. She reported that there have been a lot of advancements in the POD system. You can expand, etc. Council Member Haulsee wanted to know what it would cost to build a new jail. If you take and fix the roof and use for payment for new facility. Council Member Phillips asked the Administrator to run the figures on how much saving plus \$650,000 (Six hundred fifty thousand dollars). Council Member Phillips stated that the current facility is dangerous for employees; it was built in the 1970s. He stated that the plan is a good idea and has merit. Chairman Williams wanted to know if Mr. Jones could get grant funding. Mr. Jones stated that he could not get funding for this. Council Member Haulsee wanted to know how the county could take the 1% , Capital Projects Sales Tax monies, that was designated for improvements to the roof and construct a new facility. Chairman Williams stated that the amount listed in the CPST for the Law Enforcement Complex roof is \$100,000 (One hundred thousand dollars) and not \$650,000 (Six hundred fifty thousand dollars). Chairman Williams stated the he was told that the Sheriff and Mr. Jones met at 10:00 a. m. with the Administrator. He wanted to know if the Magistrate's Office was invited. Chairman Williams said that he wanted to make sure that everyone was at the table. Vice Chairman Hollingsworth who is a member of the Jail and Law Enforcement Committee stated that he could not see spending \$650,000 (Six hundred fifty thousand dollars) on that roof. He reported that it was presented to him about the PODS. Administrator Dobson-Elliott stated that this would address the safety issue. She continued the discussion to state that you could add on the PODS for the Magistrate's Office, because there is only about five or six employees. Chief Magistrate Carolyn Williams was in the audience and with permission expressed her concern that her office was not invited to the table when discussing the Law Enforcement Center in which her office is located. Chairman Williams asked that all departments are invited to the table. Council asked that the Administrator bring back some numbers for council to study.

Animal Shelter Fundraising

Administrator Dobson-Elliott asked council to consider creating an Animal Shelter Board and create a 501(3)c of the same board. She explained that there are some organizations that will not donate to an department or organization that listed under a government agency. She explained that the organization that is donating the food for the shelter will no longer donate if they are not a 501(3)c. The shelter has a year to become a 501(3)c.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

LEGAL MATTER AND PERSONNEL MATTER:

Moved by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to go into executive

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session to discuss a legal matter and a personnel matter. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORT OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

LEGAL MATTER AND PERSONNEL MATTER:

Moved by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to come out of executive session regarding a legal matter and a personnel matter. Motion carried unanimously. After coming out of executive session, Chairman Williams state that council discussed a legal matter and a personnel matter.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Williams adjourned the meeting at 8:12 p. m.