

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL'S MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY; NOVEMBER 5, 2007; 6:00 P. M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, B. T. DeLOACH BUILDING
201 JACKSON AVENUE, WEST, HAMPTON, SC**

Hampton County Council held its regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, November 5, 2007, 6:00 p. m., Council Chambers, B. T. DeLoach Building, Hampton, South Carolina. Council Member(s) present: Hugh B. Gray, Chairman; Virgin Johnson, Sr.; Charles H. "Buddy" Phillips; Margaret S. "Peggy" Parker, Vice Chairman and Willard E. Wilson. Staff present: Sabrena Posey Graham, Administrator; Aline Newton, Clerk to Council and A. G. Solomons, Jr., County Attorney. Media present: Shellie Murdaugh, 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:

Pastor Byrd gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Phillips.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

THIRD (3RD) READING TO ORDINANCE #2007-013, TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES BY PROVIDING FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF AIRCRAFT SUBJECT TO PROPERTY TAX IN HAMPTON COUNTY, TO ESTABLISH THE ASSESMEN RATIO OF THE FAIR MARKET VALUE OF SUCH AIRCRAFT:

Chairman Gray opened the public hearing to receive public comments on Ordinance #2007-013, an ordinance to reduce the assessment rate on aircraft in Hampton County from 10.5 percent to 4 percent. There were no comments from the public. Chairman Gray closed the public hearing.

PUBLIC COMMENT(S)

There were no public comment(s).

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ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

ADOPTION OF THE NOVEMBER 5, 2007 COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA:

Moved by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to adopt the November 5, 2007 County Council Meeting Agenda with the voiced deletions. Motion carried unanimously. Council approved the agenda with the following revisions: (1) Deletion of Items # 4.1 – Administrator Graham reported that this matter was resolved, (2) Deletion of Item #13.1.3 - Administrator Graham stated that this will be rescheduled. The instructor had a conflict, (3) Deletion of Item #4.1 – No personnel matter.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

OCTOBER 15, 2007 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

Chairman Gray asked if there were any changes to the minutes. **Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to approve the minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentation(s) scheduled.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Airport Commission

Perry Bullard

Arts Council

Faith Blumenstock

Kimberly L. Cope

Economic Development Commission

Ralph DeLoach

Dan R. Gooding

DeThane McKenzie Johnson

Lamar E. Priester

Library Board

LaClaire W. Laffitte

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RESOLUTION(S)

PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING MRS. MAXINE TUTEN, RETIRED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, HAMPTON COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL:

Chairman Gray proposed the resolution to proclaim November 6, 2007 as Maxine Tuten Day for Mrs. Maxine Tuten, Retired Executive Director of the Hampton County Arts Council. **Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to adopt the Proclamation recognizing Mrs. Tuten for her public service to Hampton County and proclaiming November 6, 2007 as Maxine Tuten Day in Hampton County. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE(S)

ORDINANCE #2007-013, TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES BY PROVIDING FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF AIRCRAFT SUBJECT TO PROPERTY TAX IN HAMPTON COUNTY; TO ESTABLISH THE ASSESSMENT RATIO OF THE FAIR MARKET VALUE OF SUCH AIRCRAFT:

Moved by Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to give third (3rd) reading to Ordinance #2007-013, an ordinance to amend the code of ordinances by providing for the assessment of aircraft subject to property tax in Hampton County; to establish the assessment ratio of the fair market value of such aircraft and to reduce the assessment rate from 10.5% to 4%. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE #2007-014, AN ORDINANCE TO DEVELOP A JOINTLY OWNED AND OPERATED INDUSTRIAL/BUSINESS PARK IN CONJUNCTION WITH COLLETON COUNTY, SUCH INDUSTRIAL/BUSINESS PARK TO BE GEOGRAPHICALLY LOCATED IN COLLETON COUNTY AND ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS OF 1976 4-1-10, ET. ESQUIRE AS AMENDED (BY TITLE ONLY):

Moved by Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to give first (1st) reading by title only to Ordinance #2007-014, an ordinance to develop a jointly owned and operated industrial/business park in conjunction with Colleton County, such industrial/business park to be geographically located in Colleton County and established pursuant to South Carolina Code of Laws of 1976 4-1-10, et, esquire as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE #2007-015, AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR A FEE-IN-LIEU AGREEMENT WITH R & L TRUCKING COMPANY (BY TITLE ONLY):

Moved by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Parker, to give first (1st) reading by title only to Ordinance #2007-015, an ordinance to provide for a fee-in-lieu agreement with R & L Trucking Company (Formerly Good Neighbor Project). Motion carried unanimously.

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ORDINANCE #2007-016, AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR A FEE-IN-LIEU AGREEMENT WITH ECOGY BIOFUELS (BY TITLE ONLY):

Moved by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to give first (1st) reading by title only to Ordinance #2007-016, an ordinance to provide for a fee-in-lieu agreement with Ecogy Biofuels. Motion carried unanimously..

BIDS

There were no bid(s) scheduled.

COUNCIL'S BRIEFING(S)

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE (CHAIRMAN GRAY):

Chairman Gray gave his update. (See Attachment #1)

COUNCIL'S DISCUSSION POINT:

Charrette Update (Council Member Parker)

Council Member Parker gave an update regarding the Charrette. She stated that several members of the Charrette team that came on the first visit will be back to visit and take a few pictures and demonstrate on their computers the results of their visit and data collection. She stated that the Charrette's general meeting will be held at the Lake Warren Community Building on November 8, 2007 at 7:00 p. m.

4th Annual Unity Community Thanksgiving

Council Member Parker stated that they will be having the 4th Annual Thanksgiving Worship at Open Arms Fellowship on November 18, 2007 at 6:00 p. m. She stated that the Arnold Fields Gospel Choir will be performing.

November 19th Agenda Items

Council Member Parker stated that she would like to recognize several members who are working with conservation efforts in Hampton County at the next meeting.

REPORTS TO COUNCIL

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Sheriff's Department Overtime

Administrator Graham presented the labor attorney's opinion regarding the sheriff's department switching from the fluctuating overtime rate of pay to the time and a half overtime rate of pay. There was a short discussion. **Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to accept the labor attorney's recommendation and to approve the time and a half with the budgeted amount for overtime being the threshold for council to review the situation if the sheriff runs out of money (overtime line item). Motion carried unanimously.

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Review of County Council's Goals and Objectives

Administrator Graham presented an update on Council's Goals and Objectives. Council Member Parker asked that this matter be placed back on the agenda for the next meeting. (See Attachment #2)

Training for Boards and Commissions

This item was deleted. Administrator Graham stated that the instructor had a conflict and will have to reschedule.

Two Traffic Enforcement Deputy Positions

Moved by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to accept the two new traffic enforcement deputies. Motion carried unanimously. These are positions that are funded by a grant.

Fiscal Year 2007-2008 First Quarter Financial Report

Mr. Mike Meyer, Finance Director, presented the 2007-2008 quarterly report. He stated that there were no alarming discoveries, etc. Council thanked Mr. Meyer for his report. (See Attachment #3)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Parker, to go into executive session to discuss a legal matter. Motion carried unanimously. **Moved** by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to come out of executive session. Motion carried unanimously. Session began 6:55 p. m. and ended 7:20 p. m. After coming out of executive session, Chairman Gray announced that Council reviewed a legal matter .

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Gray adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p. m.

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