

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL'S MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY; JANUARY 20, 2009; 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 Tuesday, January 20, 2009, 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: Michael DeWitt, The Hampton County Guardian and Shellie Murdaugh, Lowcountryus.net. 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 Borum gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Wilson.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

There were no public hearing(s).

PUBLIC COMMENT(S)

There were no public comment(s).

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

ADOPTION OF THE JANUARY 20, 2009 COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA:

Moved by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to adopt the agenda with the following revisions: (1) Move Item #13.1.1, Audit Report from under Administrator's Reports to Presentations and list as Item #7.4; (2) Add Item #11.1, Bid – Hampton County Museum Assessment Project; (3) Add Item #13.1.4, Installment Payments on Property Tax. Motion carried unanimously.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

JANUARY 5, 2009 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

Chairman Gray stated that he reviewed the minutes. He asked for a motion to adopt. **Moved** by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

MR. WILLIAM BORUM, HAMPTON COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE, LOWCOUNTRY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (LRTA) BOARD (PALMETTO BREEZE) REGARDING FUNDING FOR FAITH TRANSPORTATION:

Pastor Borum reported on his contact with the Legislative Delegation regarding funding for FAITH Transportation. He stated that the answer from the state level is that there is no funding at this time. Pastor Borum requested assistance from council. He stated that even if the funding was just for one month; it would be a help. Council asked Pastor Borum how much was he requesting? He stated that it is approximately \$75,000 - \$78,000 thousand for the year, so around \$6,000 or \$7,000 for a month. Council told Pastor Borum that they will get back to him with a decision for his request for funding for FAITH Transportation in two weeks.

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – FUNDING PROPOSAL FOR THE YEAR 2009-2010 (MRS. ANN AYER, DIRECTOR, COUNCIL ON AGING):

Moved by Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to approve the contract and the matching portion of the grant for the Council on Aging. Motion carried unanimously.

AUDIT REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007-2008 (MRS. LORI SALLEY, MCGREGOR AND COMPANY):

Mrs. Lori Salley, McGregor and Company, gave the Hampton County's Audit Report for Fiscal Year 2007-2008. Hampton County finished the year in the black.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

There were no appointments.

RESOLUTION(S)

RECYCLING RESOLUTION – PRESENTED BY MR. MICHAEL RENTIERS, NuCOR STEEL-SC:

Mr. Rentiers was not present to present the resolution. Council took no action on the resolution.

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ORDINANCE(S)

There were no ordinance(s) scheduled.

BID(S)

HAMPTON COUNTY MUSEUM BUILDING ASSESSMENT PROJECT:

Moved by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Parker, to accept the recommendation of the Historical Society and award the contract for architectural services to Harris Architects for \$20,000 (twenty thousand dollars). Motion carried unanimously. Mrs. Sowell stated that the firm will present the study in March 2009.

COUNCIL'S BRIEFING(S)

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE (CHAIRMAN GRAY):

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

COUNCIL'S DISCUSSION POINT(S):

There were no discussion point(s).

REPORTS TO COUNCIL

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

NEEDS AND ASSESSMENT REPORT OF THE HAMPTON COUNTY FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT:

Mr. Gene Rushing, County Fire Chief, presented the Needs and Assessment Report of the Hampton County Fire Rescue Department to Council. He stated that there are needs that need to be addressed regarding equipment, personnel, etc.

SOUTHERN CAROLINA ALLIANCE ACTIVITY REPORTS AND REGIONAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT GRANT REPORT:

Administrator Graham presented the Southern Carolina Alliance's Activity Report as information.

INSTALLMENT PAYMENTS OF PROPERTY TAX:

Administrator Graham provided information to council regarding the Installment Payments of Property Tax. She explained that the installment payments would be a prepayment of taxes for the upcoming year; not a payment plan to assist with current year's taxes. Council agreed to discuss the matter at their retreat.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

PERSONNEL MATTER(S):

Moved by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to go into executive session to discuss personnel matter(s). Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to come out of executive session. Motion carried unanimously. After coming out of executive session, Chairman Gray announced that they discussed personnel matters.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Gray adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p. m.