

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL'S MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY; MAY 7, 2012; 6:00 P. M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, HAMPTON COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
200 JACKSON AVENUE, EAST, HAMPTON, SC**

Hampton County Council held its regular meeting on Monday, May 7, 2012, 6:00 p. m., Council Chambers, Hampton County Administration Building, Hampton, South Carolina. Council Member(s) present: Hugh B. Gray, Chairman; Christopher B. Haulsee, Virgin Johnson, Sr., 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: Michael DeWitt, 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 Phillips.

**RECOGNITIONS:**

Chairman Gray recognized Representative Bill Bowers, South Carolina House of Representatives.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

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

- 3.1.1 April 16, 2012 County Council's Meeting Minutes
- 3.1.2 Litter Report

and the May 7, 2012 County Council Meeting Agenda with the following revision, change the second item numbered 7.6 to 7.7. Motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC HEARING(S)**

There were no public hearing(s).

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**PUBLIC COMMENT(S)**

**MR. CHARLIE ORR REGARDING REQUEST FOR PAVEMENT OF ROAD:**

Mr. Orr came before council to request that the Charlie Orr Road be paved. He stated that the request was made some years ago, and they were told by the County Transportation Committee (CTC) that they would have to own the land across from them to have the road put in (paved); they have purchased that land and now would like to request that the road be put in (paved). He stated that he ran a logging business for many years in Hampton County and sometimes the road is so dusty. He stated that he has paid taxes for many years in Hampton County. He stated that he was not saying this to get the road paved but feel that they would appreciate any help. Council informed Mr. Orr that the County Transportation Committee is responsible for paving roads. Council informed Mr. Orr that the Legislative Delegation appoints the County Transportation Committee.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes were approved under the Consent Agenda.

**PRESENTATION(S)**

**MS. LINDA CRAMER, FINANCE DIRECTOR, CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION, PRESENTATION OF THE DISTINGUISHED BUDGET AWARD:**

Mrs. Linda Cramer, Chatham County, Georgia's Finance Director, came before council to present to Mike Meyer and his staff and Hampton County the Distinguished Budget Award on behalf of the Government Finance Officers Association.

**PRESENTATION OF THE HAMPTON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AMBASSADOR OF THE YEAR, MRS. PAULA FLOWERS:**

Mrs. Sandy Fowler, Director, Economic Development, stated that Mrs. Flowers had an emergency and could not be present. Council will make presentation at a later date.

**PRESENTATION OF HAMPTON COUNTY SERVICE PLAQUE:**

Chairman Gray on behalf of council presented the plaque to retired County Fire Chief, Murray E. "Gene" Rushing, for over 21 years of dedicated service.

**PRESENTATION OF THE AWARD TO RETIRED COUNTY FIRE CHIEF GENE RUSHING BY REPRESENTATIVE BILL BOWERS:**

Representative Bowers presented to Mr. Gene Rushing the Order of the Silver Crescent which is the highest honor presented to a person for public service to his community. Representative Bowers presented the award on behalf of Governor Nicki Haley to Mr. Rushing, Retired County Fire Chief, Hampton County.

**SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION REGARDING THE BUDGET REQUEST:**

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Mr. Gary Youmans, Commissioner, Soil and Water Conservation, came before council to state that they needed the additional \$5,00 to fund the secretary's salary. He stated that they did not have the \$5,000 and would have to reduce services. He asked that council revisit their request regarding the budget issue. **Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Williams, to add Soil and Water Conservation as the second request for the budget meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Council asked that the Soil and Water Conservation request be revisited.

**MRS. EMILY HIERS, CHAIR, LIBRARY BOARD, REGARDING THE HAMPTON COUNTY LIBRARY:**

Mrs. Hiers congratulated Mike and Gene on receiving their rewards. Mrs. Hiers stated that the Capital Projects Sales Tax Commission (CPST) did pick the library as one of the projects. She stated that if the referendum passes for the tax, then the road is not closed that was approved by the Town of Hampton. She stated that she visited the Hampton Town Council Meeting and, they told her that it would be closed. She stated that Mr. David Drawdy owns property on the other side but stated that he had no objection to the road being closed, because there was another entrance to the property. Mrs. Hiers also updated council regarding the new satellite bookmobile, summer reading program, book sale in October and other activities.

**QUESTION FOR THE CAPITAL PROJECTS SALES TAX REFERENDUM FROM THE HAMPTON COUNTY CAPITAL PROJECTS TAX COMMISSION:**

The question for the Capital Projects Sales Tax Referendum was submitted to council by the Capital Projects Sales Tax Commission. Mr. Mark Cooper, CPST Commissioner, was in attendance. Council accepted the question as information. **Moved** by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to accept as information and to forward to the county attorney for review. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPOINTMENT(S) TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

There were no appointment(s).

**RESOLUTION(S)**

There were no resolution(s).

**ORDINANCE(S)**

**FIRST READING TO ORDINANCE #2012-006, AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE #2001-0716-002, E-911 ORDINANCE:**

**Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Williams, to give first reading to Ordinance #2012-006, Amendment to Ordinance #2001-0716-002, E-911 Ordinance. Motion carried unanimously.

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**BID(S)**

There were no bid(s).

**COUNCIL'S BRIEFING(S)**

**CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE (CHAIRMAN GRAY):**

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

**COUNCIL'S DISCUSSION POINT(S):**

**Council Member Williams**

Council Member Williams stated that he represented council in the MayFest Parade. Also, he requested that he would like council to write a letter of recommendation regarding Mr. Orr's request for the paving Charlie Orr Road. **Moved** by Council Member Williams, seconded by Council Member Haulsee, for council to write a letter of recommendation to the County transportation Committee asking that they pave Charlie Orr Road. Chairman Gray stated that he will write and send the letter on behalf of council.

**CODIFICATION UPDATE:**

An update was given by the Clerk regarding the Codification Project. She reported that submission of some poor quality documents were asked to be resubmitted digitally or better quality and she will be contacting the County Attorney regarding reviewing the information to be submitted by the deadline. Council asked that an update be given on the first meeting of each month.

**REPORTS TO COUNCIL**

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

**Ms. Sandy Fowler, Economic Development Director, Regarding Accepting .48 Miles of Alpine Drive/Bethlehem Bottom Road**

Ms. Fowler came before council and stated that in order to approve a new rail crossing into the Southern Carolina Commerce Park, CSX required that 2 existing crossings be closed. She stated that after consultation with and recommendation of BP Barber Engineering< Hampton County suggested that the redundant rail crossings at Alpine Road in Early Branch and Chisolm Road in Garnet be closed. CSX approved these closures and required that Hampton County fund and complete the work needed to close the crossings. Hampton County Public Works and South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) have consulted on the work to be done and support this request. The access roadway to the rail crossing on Chisolm Road is already owned by Hampton County. Ms. Fowler stated that accepting the .48 miles of road on Alpine Drive and Bethlehem Bottom road from SCDOT will provide access to the work area to close the Alpine Road crossing and insure contiguous road ownership by SCDOT. **Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Haulsee, to accept the .48 miles of Alpine Drive/Bethlehem Bottom Road into the system as represented by the Economic Development Director. Motion carried unanimously.

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**Ms. Sandy Fowler, Economic Development Director, Regarding Awarding the Contract for the Driveway and Closure Work**

Ms. Fowler stated that council needed to award the contract for driveway and closure work at the Southern Carolina Commerce Park (SCCP). She stated that CSX has installed the railroad panels needed for the new railroad crossing into the SCCP. Before the new road to the spec building is useable, Hampton County Economic Development Commission needs to build driveways connecting the new rail crossing to both Highway 68 and the Commerce Parkway. She stated that in exchange for approving a new rail crossing, CSX required that two existing crossings be closed and that Hampton County pay the cost to close them.. Hampton County Economic Development Commission has solicited bids for the driveway construction and the two rail closures. The request for bid was properly solicited per Hampton County procurement procedures. She stated that only one bid was received from J. R. Wilson Construction Company. URS/BP Barber, the engineering firm who is under contract by Hampton County to administer the bidding process, has reviewed the bid, negotiated with the bidder and made their recommendation. The recommendation is to award the contract to the lowest bidder, J. R. Wilson Construction Company, for the work at the Southern Carolina Commerce Park in the amount of \$195,978 (one hundred ninety-five thousand, nine hundred seventy-eight dollars). Ms. Fowler stated that the \$195,978 will be paid for by funds given to Hampton County from Palmetto Electric Cooperative, South Carolina Department of Commerce and SCANA for the expressed purpose of construction infrastructure at the SCCP. **Moved** by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to award the contract contingent upon full award of funds. Motion carried unanimously. Council recognized Mr. Bill Hager, Economic Development Commissioner.

**Ms. Sandy Fowler, Economic Development Director, Regarding An Economic Development Update**

Ms. Fowler updated council an update regarding economic development activities.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Moved** by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Williams, to go into executive session regarding an economic development matter and personnel matter(s). Motion carried unanimously. **Moved** by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Williams, to come out of executive session. Motion carried unanimously. **After coming out of executive session**, Chairman Gray stated that council heard reports from Twanya Fryer and Judge Williams, Administrator Graham and the Economic Development Director.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved** by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Williams, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Gray adjourned the meeting at 8:24 p. m.