

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL'S MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY; SEPTEMBER 16, 2013; 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, September 16, 2013, 6:00 p. m., Council Chambers, Hampton County Administrative Center, Hampton, South Carolina. Council Member(s) present: Hugh B. Gray, Chairman; Christopher B. Haulsee, Roy Hollingsworth, 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 Williams.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

- 3.1.1 June 10, 2013 County Council Special Meeting Minutes
- 3.1.3 July 15, 2013 County Council Meeting Minutes
- 3.1.4 August 19, 2013 County Council Meeting Minutes
- 3.1.5 Litter Report

and the September 16, 2013 Hampton County Council Meeting Agenda with the following revisions, deletion of Items #3.1.1 – 3.1.4 and Item # 11.3.1. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

THIRD READING TO ORDINANCE 2013-010, ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A FEE AGREEMENT PROVIDING FOR A PAYMENT OF A FEE IN LIEU OF TAXES AND THE ISSUANCE OF A SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDIT AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO:

Chairman Gray opened the public hearing to receive public comments regarding the third reading to Ordinance 2013-010, Ordinance Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of a Fee Agreement Providing for a Payment of a Fee in Lieu of Taxes and the Issuance of a Special Source Revenue Credit and Other Matters

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Related Thereto, for ECI-CCI. Mrs. Sandy Fowler, Economic Development Director, gave a short explanation of the project. Chairman Gray closed the public hearing.

PUBLIC COMMENT(S)

Mr. Breeze Winn was not present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes were deferred under the Consent Agenda.

PRESENTATION(S)

MS. SAUNDRA LIGON, COMMUNITY RELATIONS SENIOR CONSULTANT, SOUTH CAROLINA HUMAN AFFAIRS SERVICES, REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL:

MMs. Sandra Ligon, Community Relations Senior Consultant, South Carolina Human Affairs Services, came before council and presented resolution requesting council to sign in establishing a Hampton County Community Relations Council. Council deferred the matter until the October 7, 2013 county council meeting.

MR. GREGG BRUNSON, VICE PRESIDENT, BRUNSON CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC., REGARDING BRUNSON CONSTRUCTION COMPANY AND ITS ABILITY TO SERVE AS CONSTRUCTION MANAGER FOR THE UPCOMING CAPITAL PROJECTS SALES TAX (CPST) PROJECTS:

Mr. Gregg Brunson, Vice President, Brunson Construction Company, Inc., came before council regarding Brunson Construction Company and its ability to serve as Construction Manager for the upcoming Capital Projects Sales Tax (CPST) Projects. Mr. Brunson thanked council for the opportunity to come before them. He informed council that Brunson Construction was capable and eager to perform as Construction Manager. He gave a brief history of the company and the works that they have completed in Hampton County. He referenced that they use local contractors and sub-contractors. Council thanked Mr. Brunson for his presentation. (See Attachment – Brunson Construction Presentation)

HONORABLE T. C. SMALLS, SHERIFF, HAMPTON COUNTY, REGARDING SHERIFF'S REPORT:

Honorable T. C. Smalls, Sheriff, Hampton County, was not present.

HONORABLE CAROLYN WILLIAMS, CHIEF MAGISTRATE, HAMPTON COUNTY, REGARDING EMPLOYEE'S CLASSIFICATION, TELEPHONES, VICTIM'S ADVOCATE:

Honorable Carolyn Williams, Chief Magistrate, Hampton County, came before council regarding employee's classification, Judge Williams requested that her Clerks be given the same Grade or classification instead of having two different classifications of Grade 8 & 9. She explained that in the past one clerk handled receptionist duties, but now, both Clerks perform the same tasks. She requested that council change and place both clerks at the same classification. Judge Williams also requested that all phones for the Judge and Clerks be provided by the county. She stated that it is not proper for clerks to use their cell phones for county business. She stated that they are mandated seven days of the week to be on call; when a clerk is on call, she stated that she did not feel that it was right for a clerk to use her personal phone, because if a phone was subpoenaed, their personal calls, information would be reviewed also. Judge Williams stated that the county receive funding for the Victim's Advocate Program and those funds

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are supposed to be distributed among the Solicitor's Office, the Sheriff, Detention Center, Clerk of Court and Magistrate's Office. Judge Williams stated that her office has never requested any funds from that funding, but to purchase the phones, etc. she is requesting a portion of the funding. Administrator Graham stated that the county does receive approximately \$30,000 (thirty thousand dollars), but those funds are used to pay the Victim's Advocate and Secretary. Judge Williams stated that those funds are not to be used in just one department. Council Member Williams stated that he did not think it was fair for the classifications to be different and doing the same work. **Moved** by Council Member Williams, seconded by Council Member Hollingsworth, to classify the clerks at the same Grade up. Council Member Phillips stated that he felt that they needed to wait until the fiscal year. Council Member Hollingsworth reminded council that they did not wait until the budget in upgrading the position in the mechanic shop. Council Phillips asked where the funds would come from. Administrator Graham stated that she would take it from where council directed her. She stated contingency fund, there has not been any designations from contingency. Council Member Hollingsworth stated that it was a couple of months before the end of the fiscal year when they upgraded the position in the mechanic shop. Council Members Hollingsworth and Williams voted in favor and Council Members Gray, Haulsee and Phillips voted against. Chairman Gray stated that the motion failed for a lack of a majority.

HONORABLE TERESA WILLIAMS, AUDITOR, HAMPTON COUNTY, REGARDING OPERATION OF THE AUDITOR'S OFFICE:

Honorable Teresa Williams, Auditor, Hampton County, came before council and updated council regarding the operation of the Auditor's Office.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

PERSONNEL MATTER REGARDING THE DISCUSSION OF BOARD APPOINTMENT CANDIDATES/MEMBERS:

Moved by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Hollingsworth, to go into executive Session to discuss a personnel matter regarding the discussion of board appointment candidates/members. Motion carried unanimously. **Moved** by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Hollingsworth, to come out of executive session. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Trip Lawton, Chairman, Hampton County Planning Commission, stated that the commission was recommending that council reduce the number of commission members from nine (9) to seven (7). He stated that they were having problems getting a quorum to attend business. He stated that they presently have four (4) members and ask that three (3) be appointed. Council Member Williams stated that the commission was not meeting, because of attendance. He stated that he was looking at a list of nine (9) well-qualified applicants that have desired to come. He stated that this all came up this past March. Is there a stipulation to dismiss people if they are not attending, etc.? Council Member Hollingsworth stated that the Planning Commission was a very important commission. He stated that it should be a diverse commission and all areas to be represented. He stated that when this commission was formed; he was sure there was a reason for the nine (9) members. Council Member Hollingsworth stated that it could still be the nine and could change if attendance was a problem.

APPOINTMENT(S)

ORDINANCE 2013-012, AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE 90-02 ARTICLE 1-A REGARDING MEMBERSHIP OF PLANNING COMMISSION:

Moved by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to give third reading to Ordinance 2013-012, Amendment to Ordinance 90-02 Article 1-A Regarding Membership of the Planning Commission, to change the number of members from nine (9) to seven (7). Motion carried with Council Members Gray, Haulsee and Phillips voting in favor and Council Members Hollingsworth and Williams voting against.

HAMPTON COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION:

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Council voted by secret ballot to appoint Thomas Dawkins, John Shaw and Elease Gant to the Hampton County Planning Commission.

LOWCOUNTRY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD APPOINTMENTS:

Council voted by secret ballot to appoint Bridgett Peeples (One Stop Representative) and Buddy Bullard (Business Representative) to the Lowcountry Workforce Investment Board.

RESOLUTION(S)

RESOLUTION ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FOR THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT:

Moved by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to adopt the resolution regarding the Community Development Block Grant for the Health Department. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE(S)

THIRD READING TO ORDINANCE 2013-010, THE ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A FEE AGREEMENT PROVIDING FOR A PAYMENT OF A FEE IN LIEU OF TAXES THE ISSUANCE OF A SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDIT AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO:

Moved by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to give third reading to Ordinance 2013-010, the Ordinance Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of a Fee Agreement Providing for a Payment of a Fee in Lieu of Taxes the Issuance of a Special Source Revenue Credit and Other Matters Related Thereto. Motion carried with Council Members Gray, Haulsee and Phillips voting in favor and Council Members Hollingsworth and Williams voting against.

BID(S)

There were no bid(s).

COUNCIL'S BRIEFING(S)

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE:

Chairman Gray gave his update. (See Attachment #2)

DISCUSSION POINTS (COUNCIL MEMBERS):

Council Member Williams

Council Member Williams read a statement regarding requesting that the RFP's be brought to council for review before being advertised and that the Administrator continued with the process in spite of the request, etc. Council Member Williams moved that the RFPs be postponed.... Chairman Gray interjected that the motion was out of order.

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REPORT(S) TO COUNCIL

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Vehicle Request from the Town of Gifford

Mayor Mitchell, the Town of Gifford, came before council to request the donation of a vehicle. Mayor Mitchell stated that he and the Sheriff discussed the request and he has an available vehicle that he has taken out of service. Council Member Phillips asked regarding if requests came from any other towns. Administrator Graham stated that no other towns have ever made a request. **Moved** by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Williams, to donate the vehicle identified in the agenda item to the Town of Gifford. Council Member Hollingsworth wanted to know that once it was donated that the county had no liability. Administrator Graham stated that the county would no longer have any liability. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Chris Altman, Emergency Services Director, Hampton County, Regarding Operations of the Emergency Medical Services Department

Mr. Chris Altman, Emergency Services Director, Hampton County, came before council and updated council regarding the operations of the Emergency Medical Services Department.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to adjourn. Chairman Gray adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p. m.