

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY; NOVEMBER 4, 2019; 6:00 P. M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, HAMPTON COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER
200 JACKSON AVENUE, EAST, HAMPTON, SC**

Hampton County Council held its regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, November 4, 2019, 6:00 p. m., Council Chambers, Hampton County Administrative Center, Hampton, South Carolina. Council Member(s) present: Clay Bishop, Chairman; Charles H. “Buddy” Phillips, Vice Chairman; Roy Hollingsworth, Ronald G. “Breeze” Winn and Darin Williams. Council Member(s) absent: None. Staff present: Rose Dobson-Elliott, Administrator; Aline Newton, Clerk to Council and A. G. Solomons, Jr., County Attorney. Staff absent: None. Media present: Mr. Michael DeWitt, Hampton County Guardian. The meeting was advertised as prescribed by law.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Bishop called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION:

Council Member Williams gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Winn.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

ADOPTION OF THE NOVEMBER 4, 2019 HAMPTON COUNTY MEETING AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA:

Chairman Bishop asked for a motion to adopt the agenda with the changes of deferring Item #10.1.1, editing of document 10.1.4, Hampton County Parliamentary Procedure Ordinance, Item #10.1.2, (Model Rule 2 to use the preferred language and Model Rule 18. Title line strike [Motion to discipline] Line 2 strike “body” and replace it with “Chair”, Line 7 Strike “motion and two thirds vote of the body” and replace it with “the Chair”.. **Moved** by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Winn, to approve the November 4, 2019 county council meeting agenda with the denoted changes. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

THIRD READING TO THE AMENDMENT TO THE HAMPTON COUNTY MODEL RULES OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE FOR SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTIES ORDINANCE:

Chairman Bishop opened the public hearing to receive public comments regarding the third reading to the Amendment to the Hampton County Model Rules of Parliamentary Procedure for South Carolina Counties Ordinance. Chairman Bishop inserted several changes to the document (Model Rule 2 to use the preferred language and Model Rule 18. Title line strike [Motion to discipline] Line 2 strike “body” and replace it with “Chair”, Line 7 Strike “motion and two thirds vote of the body” and replace it with “the Chair”.) Chairman Bishop closed the public hearing.

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THIRD READING TO THE SALE OF THE RUTH JONES DIALYSIS CENTER TO HAMPTON REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER:

Chairman Bishop opened the public hearing to receive public comments regarding the third reading to the Sale of Ruth Jones Dialysis to Hampton Regional Medical Center. There were no public comments.

THIRD READING TO THE ADMINISTRATOR'S EMERGENCY SUCCESSION PLAN AND POLICY:

Chairman Bishop opened the public hearing to receive public comments regarding the third reading to the Administrator's Emergency Succession Plan and Policy. There were no public comments. Chairman Bishop closed the public hearing.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

ME. JOSHUA JAMES REGARDING RECREATION:

Mr. James came before council and requested \$15,000 - \$20,000 to assist with the Little League Recreation Program. He explained that there has been a lack of participation and the reason behind the decrease in participation is the cost of the uniform and equipment that parents cannot afford. He informed council that the Estill Little League Program folded last year due to lack of participation. He expressed the need for assistance in providing the little league players their uniforms. He explained that he is dedicated to recreation for the youth and would like to ask the county to help fund the uniforms and equipment in next year's budget.

MS. MICHELLE ALTMAN, RURAL HEALTH AGENT, CLEMSON UNIVERSITY EXTENSION, REGARDING RURAL HEALTH:

Ms. Michelle Altman introduced herself and told council that she has a background as a nurse. She informed council that Hampton County is the third highest obesity rate. She stated that she wanted to introduce their roles in the county at Clemson Extension and look forward to their input. Council Member Hollingsworth wanted to know if there was any cost to the county. Ms. Altman responded that there was not any right now. Ms. Altman explained to council that they were a part of the rural health program at Clemson Extension to help address the issue of obesity in Hampton County. Ms. Michelle Altman introduced Ms. Jamelia Graham, Rural Health Agent, Clemson Extension regarding Policy Systems and Environmental Sustainability and Ms. Dawn Stuckey, Agent, Clemson Extension.

MR. JACOB BRODERSEN:

Mr. Brodersen came before council to comment regarding the importance of the airport in Hampton County. He informed council that he was a Defense Contractor for Aviation. He explained that he heard about the airport expansion and thought that the plan was wonderfully aggressive. He explained that Hampton County could be missing out on opportunity in regards to the massive shortage of pilots and mechanics. The county could expose teenagers to flying and partnering with Technical College of the Lowcountry (TCL) to offer courses for FAA approved. He commented that he could not speak for TCL but thought that this would be a good idea. . He mentioned that

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the population of aviation mechanics and pilots were aging and this is a good opportunity for youth to pursue as a career. Council Member Hollingsworth explained that he was right on his statistics because his brother is an aircraft mechanic and he is 56 years old.

COUNCIL MEMBER RONALD WINN:

Council Member Winn came before council wanting to know:

1. How much the county had to borrow to pay our bills? He understood that we did not have the funds to pay bills.

2. What are the amounts that are coming in from green energy (solar)?

He understood that the taxpayers are really going to be affected by the closing of Georgia Pacific in Allendale. We have people who work there. Why are we borrowing money if we can't pay our bills? Who's really in charge of the county? Not us.

MR. QUINCY JONES:

Mr. Jones came before council and commented that the judge has ordered mandatory mediation with Chairman Bishop, Chairman Woodard and hope to settle litigation. Mr. Jones explained that he is touting airport and safety and commented that this is what his business is wrapped around.

MR. CHIP MIXSON:

Mr. Mixson thanked Ms. Elliott for calling him to answer his question from the previous meeting. He expressed to council that he knew it was not easy sitting in those chairs and it's a lot regarding economic lines. He reiterated to council that 2.6 million to be borrowed is a sizable debt to take on and to say it would not fall on the citizens. It would be over \$11,000 per month payment but with expansion, growth, maintenance and insurance come more cost to the county. He explained that he is for expansion and growth for economic development but the cost of more manpower – what kind of message is it going to send if Hampton County does not honor a contract (litigation) for economic development.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL'S OCTOBER 7, 2019 MEETING MINUTES:

Moved by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Williams, to approve the October 7, 2019 Hampton County Council Meeting Minutes with the deletion of the wording “defraying the cost” listed twice on page 1 of 5. Motion carried unanimously.

HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL'S OCTOBER 21, 2019 MEETING MINUTES:

Moved by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Hollingsworth, to approve the October 21, 2019 Hampton County Council Meeting Minutes with the addition of the word “Council” after Hampton County Arts on page 1 of 6. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION(S)

There were no presentation(s).

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APPOINTMENT(S)

There were no appointment(s).

RESOLUTION(S)/PROCLAMATION(S)

There were no resolution(s)/proclamation(s).

ORDINANCE(S)

THIRD READING TO THE AMENDMENT TO THE HAMPTON COUNTY MODEL RULES OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE FOR SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTIES ORDINANCE:

Moved by Council Member Hollingsworth, seconded by Council Member Williams, to give third reading to the Amendment to the Hampton County Model Rules of Parliamentary Procedure for South Carolina Counties Ordinance. Motion carried unanimously.

THIRD READING TO THE SALE OF THE RUTH JONES DIALYSIS CENTER TO HAMPTON REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

Moved by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Williams, to give third reading to the Sale of Ruth Jones Dialysis to Hampton Regional Medical Center. Moved by Council Member Winn to get the numbers for the cost, etc. Motion carried with Council Members Bishop, Hollingsworth, Phillips and Williams voting in favor and Council Member Winn voting opposing.

SECOND READING TO AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE SALE OF REAL PROPERTY OWNED BY HAMPTON COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA TO PROJECT FLASH AND OTHER MATTERS:

Council Member Hollingsworth recused himself. Chairman Bishop asked Council Member Hollingsworth to please provide a written statement to the Clerk regarding his recusal. **Moved** by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Williams, to give second reading to an Ordinance to Provide for the Sale of Real Property Owned by Hampton County, South Carolina to Project Flash and Other Matters. Motion carried with Council Members Bishop, Hollingsworth, Phillips and Williams voting in favor and Council Member Winn voting opposing.

SECOND READING TO AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR INFRASTRUCTURE OR SPECIAL REVENUE CREDITS TO AN INDUSTRY CURRENTLY KNOWN TO THE COUNTY AS "PROJECT FLASH" AUTHORIZING AN INFRASTRUCTURE CREDIT AGREEMENT BETWEEN HAMPTON COUNTY AND PROJECT FLASH; TO FURTHER AMEND THE AMENDED AND RESTATED MASTER AGREEMENT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE QUAL-COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK I, PARK II AND PARK III, BY AND AMONG HAMPTON COUNTY, ALLENDALE COUNTY,

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BAMBERG COUNTY, AND BARNWELL COUNTY AND BARNWELL COUNTY (THE “MCIP AGREEMENT”), CO AS TO INCLUDE ADDITIONAL PROPERTY INHAMPTON COUNTY AS PART OF THE PARK PROVIDING FOR THE ALLOCATION OF FEE-IN-LIEU OF TAXES PAYABLE UNDER THE MCIP AGREEMENT; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO:

Council Member Winn asked Mr. Brantley Strickland if he had checked the safety rating with this company. Mr. Strickland responded that he had actually visited the plant and the company has the highest rating regarding safety. **Moved** by Council Member Hollingsworth, seconded by Council Member Winn, to give second reading to an Ordinance Providing for Infrastructure or Special Source Revenue Credits to an Industry Currently Known to the County as “Project Flash;” Authorising an Infrastructure Credit Agreement Between Hampton County and Project Flash; To Further Amend the Amended and Restated Master Agreement for the Establishment of the Quad-County Industrial Park I, Park II, and Park III, by and Among Hampton County, Allendale County, Bamberg County, and Barnwell County and Barnwell County (The “MCIP Agreement”), So as to Include Additional Property in Hampton County as Part of the Park; Providing for the Allocation of Fee-In-Lieu of Taxes Payable Under the MCIP Agreement; and Other Matters Relating Thereto. Motion carried unanimously.

FIRST READING TO AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE AMENDMENT OF THE AGREEMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT OF A JOINT COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK, BY AND BETWEEN HAMPTON COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA AND COLLETON COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA PROVIDING FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A JOINTLY OWNED AND OPERATED INDUSTRIAL/BUSINESS PARK, SO AS TO INCLUDE ADDITIONAL PROPERTY IN COLLETON COUNTY AS PART OF THE JOINT COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK:

Moved by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Williams, to give first reading to an Ordinance to Approve Amendment of the Agreement for Development of a Joint County Industrial Park, By and Between Hampton County, South Carolina and Colleton County, South Carolina, Providing for the Development of a Jointly Owned and Operated Industrial/Business Park, so as to Include Additional Property in Colleton County as Part of the Joint County Industrial Park. Motion carried unanimously.

BID(S)

There were no bid(s).

COUNCIL BRIEFING(S)

COUNTY ATTORNEY’S UPDATE:

The County Attorney gave updates on the following:

Opioid Update

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County Attorney Solomons reported to Council that the class action suit is in state court but there is a federal class action suit. The county received from the federal claim and can opt out. He has contacted the lawyer that is handling the suit on behalf of Hampton County but has not heard from Mr. Parker. County Attorney Solomons commented that he is not a class action suit lawyer and wait to speak with the advocate of the court for the opioid class action.

Department of Revenue (DOR) Assessment

County Attorney Solomons reported that CSX is challenging the tax and assessment but it being contested. He explained that he spoke with Attorney Theodore Debose and CSX is challenging the 2018 assessment also.

Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

County Attorney Solomons reported that the pleadings for DNR are going through for the road closing. Council authorized him to accept for the county. At that time pleadings had not been sent by mail and the thirty days to respond will begin Wednesday. County Attorney Solomons reminded council that they had authorized him to sign to accept as discussed previously.

Contract for Dialysis Center

The contract tracks the letter of agreement.

CLERK'S UPDATE:

Boards and Commissions Update

The Clerk advised council gave an update regarding the boards and commissions by 11/8/2019.

REPORT(S) TO COUNCIL

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Administrator Dobson Elliott reported to council that the performance by Double Shot was a great success at the theater and the Haunted House at the Stanley Building was a great success. She also reported that she attended the mural dedication to the Marines in Yemassee, and it was covered by the Island Packet, Beaufort Gazette, SJCL and the Hampton County Guardian. She expressed that it was nice seeing all the Veterans dressed in their uniforms. Also, there was representation from Hampton County Council, Jasper County Council, Yemassee Town Council the Young Marines (Lawtonville). Administrator Dobson Elliott commented that there may be some planes flying in for the State Forestry.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There were no executive session matters.

REPORT OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

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There were no matters to report out.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Hollingsworth, to adjourn.
Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Bishop adjourned the meeting.