

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY; SEPTEMBER 16, 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, September 16, 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: No media was present. 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:

Vice Chairman Phillips gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Winn.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

ADOPTION OF THE SEPTEMBER 16, 2019 HAMPTON COUNTY MEETING AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA:

Chairman Bishop asked for a motion to adopt the agenda. **Moved** by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Hollingsworth, to approve the September 16, 2019 county council consent agenda and the meeting agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

There was no public hearing(s).

Chairman Bishop recognized Representative Williams, District 122, South Carolina House of Representatives.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

MR. JIM BROWN REGARDING THE NEED FOR CHAPLAINCY IN HAMPTON COUNTY:

Mr. Brown came before council and reminded council that he had come before them last year in regards for the need of a chaplaincy program in Hampton County. He explained that since that time he has established a non-profit to provide services in the Estill, Hampton and Hopewell areas. He presented a letter to council. He explained that the non-profit started on September 3, 2019. The name of the non-profit is Chaplain 59 of the Lowcountry. Council thanked Mr. Brown for his presentation.

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REPRESENTATIVE SHEDRON WILLIAMS, DISTRICT 122, SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

Representative Williams came before council to mention a few things. He asked about the Brunson zoning and if a family is not in the town limits of Brunson, do they have to join the Lowcountry Regional Water System,; when the system was started; residents were told that if they were not in the town limits and were not on the system, they did not have to join, but he said that he would mention it and also there to support Mr. Hutto on the Palmetto Palace project. Council thanked Representative Williams.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL'S AUGUST 19, 2019 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES:

Moved by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Hollingsworth to approve the August 19, 2019 Hampton County Council Special Meeting Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL'S AUGUST 19, 2019 MEETING MINUTES:

Moved by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Williams to approve the August 19, 2019 Hampton County Council Meeting Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION(S)

MS. SANDRA LIGON, SOUTH CAROLINA HUMAN AFFAIRS COMMISSION:

Ms. Sandra Ligon, Human Relations Consultant, South Carolina Human Affairs Commission, came before council to reintroduce herself and to ask that the Hampton County Human Relations Board that was once vibrant get active again. The Chair who was Corrin Bowers could no longer serve since he had other duties as Mayor. Council thanked Ms. Ligon for her presentation.

MR. BRANTLEY STRICKLAND, PROJECT MANAGER FOR HAMPTON COUNTY, SOUTHERNCAROLINA ALLIANCE:

Mr. Strickland came before council and gave the quarterly report for SouthernCarolina Alliance.

MR. JACK HUTTO REGARDING PALMETTO PALACE, MOBILE HEALTH UNIT:

Mr. Hutto, Hampton School District 1, came before council and made a presentation regarding Palmetto Palace, a mobile health unit. He explained that Dr. Yolanda Gibbs and Ms. Eleanor Murray were not present tonight. He explained that the mobile unit serves students that have no insurance or are underinsured. It will also serve those with insurance; Mr. Hutto commented that they are not out to compete with any other health providers. Mr. Hutto informed council that they have one of the sites at Fennell Elementary School but is looking for another site. Council informed Mr. Hutto that the site at the council on aging senior center may be available as a site. Council thanked Mr. Hutto for his presentation.

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APPOINTMENT(S)

HAMPTON COUNTY ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS:

Council voted by ballot to appoint Brian McDaniel and Sam Tracy to the Hampton County Zoning Board of Appeals.

RESOLUTION(S)/PROCLAMATION(S)

HAMPTON COUNTY PUBLIC FACILITIES UPGRADE (SENIOR CENTERS):

Moved Council Member Williams, seconded by Council Member Hollingsworth, to adopt the Hampton County Public Facilities Upgrade (Senior Centers) Resolution with the correct wording. Motion carried unanimously

FRIENDS OF THE ARTS BYLAWS:

Moved by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Williams, to adopt the Friends of the Arts Bylaws by resolution. Council Member Winn asked that it be a part of record that the county is not owners of the building and that they are recreating the Friends of the Arts as a new entity and that this is out of order and not pertinent. Motion carried with Council Members Hollingsworth, Phillips and Bishop voting in favor. Council Member Winn voting against and Council Member Williams abstaining.

ORDINANCE(S)

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

Council Member Hollingsworth explained that he would recuse himself and step out of the room, because he is a member of the Hampton Regional Medical Center Board., Administrator Dobson Elliott explained that the county received a loan from USDA in the amount of \$300,000 to purchase the building; the building cost the county \$240,000 and the \$60,000 is still in the bank. The county is going to sell the building to the hospital for \$240,000 and the remainder that is the bank will be used to pay off the USDA loan. Council asked if there was any interest. Administrator Dobson-Elliott explained that the first payment is not due until January. Chairman Bishop explained that he should have a written statement at the beginning of the meeting. Council Member Hollingsworth commented that he just found out that it was on the agenda. Chairman Bishop commented that it was on the agenda that was sent out. **Moved** by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Council Member Williams, to give first reading to the Ordinance Regarding the Sale of Ruth Jones Dialysis to Hampton Regional Medical Center. Motion carried with Council Members Bishop, Phillips and Williams voting in favor and Council Member Winn voting against. Council Member Hollingsworth recused himself.

USDA – BOND FOR HANGARS ORDINANCE:

Administrator Dobson-Elliott explained that the loan is for 2,666,620 (Two million, six hundred sixty-six thousand, six hundred twenty dollars) for the hangars at the Hampton County Airport.

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She asked the first reading be given by title only and the details will be provided at the next reading. She explained that the interest rate would not exceed 3.5%. Chairman Bishop restated that the interest rate cannot be more than 3.5%. Council Member Winn had questions regarding the contingency. Administrator Dobson-Elliott explained that the 10% contingency was included in the 2,666,620 amount. **Moved** by Council Member Hollingsworth, seconded by Vice Chairman Phillips, to give first reading by title only to and Ordinance to Provide for the Issuance and Sale of Not Exceeding \$2,666,620 General Obligation Bonds and Not Exceeding \$2,666,620 General Obligation Bond Anticipation Notes of Hampton County, South Carolina for the Purposes of Defraying the Costs of Acquiring and Constructing the Hampton County Airport Hangar and Other Public Uses; To Provide for the Payment Thereof and Other Matters Relating Thereto. Motion carried with Council Members Bishop, Hollingsworth, Phillips and Williams voted in favor, and Council Member Winn voted against.

BID(S)

There were no bid(s).

COUNCIL'S BRIEFING(S)
COUNTY ATTORNEY'S UPDATE:

Chairman Bishop explained that the County Attorney met with council earlier but had to leave.

Report on Coroner's Lawsuit

Administrator Dobson-Elliott explained that the appeal from the coroner who retired had been dismissed by the court. Council Member Williams asked what the legal fees on the lawsuit were. Administrator Dobson-Elliott said she did not know but would get the information for him.

Decision on Proposal for Company Two

Moved by Council Member Hollingsworth, seconded by Vice Chairman Phillips, to accept the recommendation of the Hampton County Airport Commission and reject the proposal for Company Two. Council Member Winn explained that the lawyers presented the proposal and the Administrator said that she supported it. Council Member Williams commented that he supports the ruling of the ruling by the Judge and also reminded council that Administrator Dobson-Elliott recommended the proposal that was worked out. Motion carried with Council Members Bishop, Hollingsworth and Phillips voting in favor and Council Members Williams and Winn voting against.

CLERK'S UPDATE:

Boards and Commissions Update

The Clerk informed council that she will provide an updated list at the October 7, 2019 meeting.

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REPORT(S) TO COUNCIL

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Personnel Update

Administrator Dobson-Elliott gave council an update.

Setting Date for Retreat

Council decided to meet on October 3, 2019 at 5:15 p. m. to 7:15 p. m. for the retreat.

Setting Date for Team Building

Council decided to meet on October 10, 2019 at 5:15 p. m. to 7:15 p. m. for the team building workshop.

Town of Brunson

Administrator Dobson-Elliott explained that the Town of Brunson has new technology and some people who were in the Town of Brunson and not paying town taxes. They realized that some residents were in the town. Administrator Dobson-Elliott explained that there is a process if they were annexed in and want to get out. Chairman Bishop commented that he did not remember reading that in the annexation policies. As far as residents being annexed in the town, they do not have to change to water system but if they were existing residents, they cannot change.

Town of Estill

She explained that the Town of Estill sent the information for the Estill Fall Arts Festival, September 28, 2019 – October 5, 2019.

Town of Yemassee

The Town of Yemassee will have their Shrimp Festival and the parade is September 21, 2019 at 10:00 a. m. and the dignitaries' luncheon will be immediately after the parade.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There were executive session matters.

REPORT OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

There were no executive session matters.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Council Member Williams, seconded by Council Member Winn, to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Bishop adjourned the meeting.