

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY; FEBRUARY 16, 2021; 6:00 P. M.
HAMPTON COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER
200 JACKSON AVENUE, EAST, HAMPTON, SOUTH CAROLINA**

Hampton County Council held a regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, February 16, 2021, 6:00 p. m. Council Member(s) present: Charles H. “Buddy” Phillips, Chairman; Darin Williams, Vice Chairman; Roy Hollingsworth, Clay Bishop, and Noah O. Alexander. Council Member(s) absent: None. Staff present: Rose Dobson-Elliott, Administrator, Aline Newton, Clerk to Council, A. G. Solomons, Jr., County Attorney. Staff absent: None. Wilson Holland, Hampton County IT Director was present. The meeting was advertised as prescribed by law.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Phillips called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION:

Council Member Bishop gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Hollingsworth.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

ADOPTION OF THE FEBRUARY 16, 2021 HAMPTON COUNTY MEETING

AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA:

Chairman Phillips asked for approval of the consent agenda (3.1) and the agenda (3.2). **Moved** by Council Member Bishop, seconded by Council Member Hollingsworth, to adopt the February 16, 2021 county council consent agenda and meeting agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

2021-002, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING PURSUANT TO TITLE 12, CHAPTER 44 OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA 1976, AS AMENDED, THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF AN AMENDED AND RESTATED FEE-IN-LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES AGREEMENT, BY AND BETWEEN HAMPTON COUNTY AND AN ENTITY IDENTIFIED BY THE COUNTY AS PROJECT VITTORIO II AND ITS AFFILIATES AND RELATED ENTITIES, TO PROVIDE FOR A FEE-IN-LIEU OF TAXES INCENTIVE AND CERTAIN SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDITS; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO. (PROJECT VITTORIO II):

Chairman Phillips opened the public hearing regarding Ordinance 2021-002, An Ordinance Authorizing Pursuant To Title 12, Chapter 44 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, As Amended, The Execution and Delivery of an Amended and Restated Fee-In-Lieu of Ad

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Valorem Taxes Agreement, By and Between Hampton County and An Entity Identified By the County As Project Vittorio II and Its Affiliates and Related Entities, To Provide for a Fee-In-Lieu of Taxes Incentive and Certain Special Source Revenue Credits; And Other Matters Related Thereto. (Project Vittorio II). Mr. Ronald “Breeze” Winn came before council and asked several questions regarding the project. Mr. Brantley Strickland, Senior Project Manager, SouthernCarolina Alliance, responded by telling Mr. Winn that the project was located on the SouthernCarolina Industrial Campus and that Nupi is making an additional five (5) million-dollar investment with 28 new folks. Mr. Winn wanted to know if the amount of taxes paid would be less. Mr. Strickland commented that the taxes would be reduced by 10% (ten percent) according to the agreement. Mr. Winn commented that you can’t tell them who to hire but wanted to know if they were hiring Hampton County residents. Mr. Strickland responded that most of the employees were from Hampton County. He further commented that they were using Brunson Construction and Smiley Electrical Services. There were no other comments; Chairman Phillips closed the public hearing.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

MS. GOLDEN V. DOCTOR REGARDING ROAD COMPLAINT:

Ms. Doctor came before council regarding the condition of her road. She commented that the county charged \$25 for road tax, and she wanted to know how it was used. Administrator Dobson Elliott commented that she pulled the records and work has been done on that road more than 4 times last year. Council Member Alexander asked Administrator Dobson Elliott if the Mr. Hodges, Public Works Director, can go and look at the road. Administrator Dobson Elliott explained that the public works department works on a rotation schedule. Council Member Alexander if council could get Mr. Hodge in here. Council Member Bishop explained that he mirrored Mr. Alexander’s concern. Administrator Dobson Elliott replied that she will go and look at the road.

MR. RONALD “BREEZE” WINN REGARDING EXIT 38:

Mr. Winn came before council and commented that he did not agree with everything being done in Yemassee especially about Exit 38. He commented that Council Member Bishop was from that area and was partial to the area. Council Member Bishop clarified that the Exit 38 project would benefit Hampton County in that it is the only exit off of I-95 in the county. He explained that it would be beneficial from a safety point and economically.

MS. CASSIE SMITH REGARDING THE CPST AND RECREATION IN HAMPTON COUNTY:

Ms. Smith came before council and voiced her concern about why the Recreation Complex has not been constructed or built yet. Administrator Dobson Elliott provided insight to Ms. Smith as to why the projects haven’t been completed. Ms. Smith reported to council the disparaging conditions that the youth have to contend regarding recreation. Council Member Alexander shared his frustration regarding what was promised and delivered regarding recreation as a young

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person prior to being on council. He commented that he was very sympathetic regarding the recreation project. He asked that information regarding the Capital Projects Sales Tax (CPST) Projects be put on the website. Administrator Dobson Elliott will do so. Chairman Phillips stated that council usually does not respond to public comments, but he allowed it this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

FEBRUARY 1, 2021 HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES:

Moved by Council Member Bishop, seconded by Vice Chairman Williams, to approve the February 1, 2021 Hampton County Council Meeting Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION(S)

MR. MARVIN LOVE, SPOKESPERSON, HAMPTON COUNTY BOARD OF VOTER REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS, REGARDING:

Mr. Love introduced the Hampton County Board of Voter Registration and Elections members present. He explained that they were coming before council regarding the Hampton County Board of Voter Registration and Elections Office. Mr. Love explained that they need a full-time clerk. They have a full time Director, two part-time clerks and one seasonal worker. He asked that they maintain the part-time and seasonal worker and change the other part-time clerk to a full-time clerk which would only equate to an additional 20 hours per week and benefits and space to store the new equipment when it arrives. Mr. Love reported that this was the request from the board and staff. He also noted that they realize that these are budget items but wanted to let council know their desires regarding the requests. He further explained that they will be back during the budget process.

APPOINTMENT(S)

There were no appointment(s).

RESOLUTION(S)/PROCLAMATION(S)

COVID-19 VIGIL PROCLAMATION:

Chairman Phillips commented that Council Member Alexander brought this to council and asked that he read the proclamation. Council Member Alexander read the proclamation. **Moved** by Council Member Alexander, seconded by Council Member Bishop, to adopt the Hampton County COVID-19 Victims Remembrance Day Proclamation. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE(S)

THIRD READING TO ORDINANCE 2021-002, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING PURSUANT TO TITLE 12, CHAPTER 44 OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA 1976, AS AMENDED, THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF AN AMENDED AND RESTATED FEE-IN-LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES AGREEMENT,

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BY AND BETWEEN HAMPTON COUNTY AND AN ENTITY IDENTIFIED BY THE COUNTY AS PROJECT VITTORIO II AND ITS AFFILIATES AND RELATED ENTITIES, TO PROVIDE FOR A FEE-IN-LIEU OF TAXES INCENTIVE AND CERTAIN SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDITS; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO. (PROJECT VITTORIO II):

Mr. Brantley Strickland, Senior Project Manager, SouthernCarolina Alliance, came before council to recommend third reading., **Moved** by Council Member Bishop, seconded by Vice Chairman Williams, to give third reading to Ordinance 2021-002, An Ordinance Authorizing Pursuant to Title 12, Chapter 44 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, As Amended, The Execution and Delivery of an Amended and Restated Fee-In-Lieu of Ad Valorem Taxes Agreement, By and Between Hampton County and An Entity Identified by the County as Project Vittorio II and Its Affiliates and Related Entities, to Provide for a Fee-In-Lieu of Taxes Incentive and Certain Special Source Revenue Credits; and Other Matters Related Thereto. (Project Vittorio II). Motion carried unanimously.

BID(S)

There were no bid(s).

COUNCIL BRIEFING(S)

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE:

Chairman Phillips had no update.

Council Member Bishop

Council Member Bishop reported that he spoke with the Mayor and Town Administrator in Estill, and the Town of Estill will pledge \$500 (Five hundred dollars), provide the scaffolding, public works will assist and the ladies in the community will do fundraising to put the mural by Harry's Car Care.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S UPDATE:

County Attorney Solomons stated that he had no update.

CLERK'S UPDATE:

The Clerk had no update.

REPORT(S) TO COUNCIL

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Administrator Dobson Elliott explained that she was in conversation to get ordinance because, Mr. Black is always getting all of the Fee-In-Lieu and the county needed some because the

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county owns the roads in the industrial park. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is still working with COVID-19 vaccines.

Hampton County Arts Council Valentine's Day Event

Council Member Bishop complimented the Hampton County Arts Council on the Valentine's Day event. He said that it was well attended and went off without a hitch. They complimented all the performers and also Denmark Technical College's Music Department for providing the technical assistance and equipment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There were no matter(s).

REPORT OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

There were no matter(s).

ADJOURNMENT

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