

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY; JUNE 6, 2005; 6:00 P. M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, B. T. DeLOACH BUILDING, HAMPTON, SC**

Hampton County Council held a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, June 6, 2005, 6:00 p. m., Council Chambers, B. T. DeLoach Building, Hampton, South Carolina. Council Member(s) present: Lee S. Bowers; Virgin Johnson, Sr.; Margaret S. Parker, Chairman and Willard E. Wilson, Vice Chair. Council member(s) absent: Lisa Ball. Staff present: Michael Meyer, Finance Director; Aline Newton, Clerk to Council and A. G. Solomons, Jr., County Attorney. Media present: Mr. Wayne Knuckles, The Hampton County Guardian and Chris Haulsee, Cruise 92 Radio. The meeting was advertised as prescribed by law.

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Parker called the meeting to order.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**INVOCATION:**

Pastor Kevin Byrd, Chaplain, Hampton County, gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Parker.

**PUBLIC HEARING(S)**

There were no public hearing(s).

**PUBLIC COMMENT(S)**

**PASTOR KEVIN BYRD REGARDING APPRECIATION TO COUNCIL FOR TAKING IMMEDIATE ACTION ON HIS REQUEST REGARDING A SIDEWALK AT THE NEW DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES BUILDING:**

Pastor Byrd came before Council and thanked Council and the Administrator in her absence for taking such quick action regarding his request for a sidewalk at the new Department of Social Services Building. He stated that he had come before Council a few months ago and requested that a sidewalk be put on the side of the road where the new DSS Building is. He stated that he heard that action has been taken on his request, and he wanted to thank Council and the Administrator. Chairman Parker told Pastor Byrd that it has not happened yet. She stated that a grant has been applied for regarding the sidewalk project. Chairman Parker stated that the County will not know until they hear from the grant application.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

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**ADOPTION OF MAY 2, 2005 COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA:**

Chairman Parker asked if there were any changes to the agenda. **Moved** by Council Member Bowers, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to adopt the agenda with the following revisions: Addition to the Administrator's Report regarding the Addition of Change in 2005-2006 Budget for Courthouse Security and change of item number for 2005-2006 Hampton County Budget. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**May 16, 2005 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:**

Chairman Parker asked if there were any changes to the minutes. There were none. Chairman Parker stated that the minutes would be approved as received.

**PRESENTATIONS**

There were no presentation(s).

**APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

There were no appointment(s).

**RESOLUTION(S)**

**THE TOWN OF ESTILL'S 100<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY:**

Chairman Parker read the resolution recognizing the Town of Estill's 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday. **Moved** by Council Member Bowers, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to adopt the resolution recognizing the Town of Estill's 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION TO CORRECT AN OVERSIGHT IN RESOLUTION 95-07  
RELINQUISHING ALL RIGHTS RESERVED TO IT IN THE LAND PURCHASE  
CONTRACT AND DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH REGARD TO A 10 ACRE  
TRACT OF LAND LOCATED WITHIN THE LOWCOUNTRY INDUSTRIAL PARK THT  
WAS CONVEYED TO CARSONITE:**

County Attorney Solomons stated that the resolution would clear up a missing mortgage regarding the Mortgage for a 10 acre tract of land deeded to Carsonite. He stated that the documents were recorded twice and the resolution would reference the correct and reflect that the mortgage has been satisfied and clean up the records to reflect the records as is recorded in the courthouse. **Moved** by Council Member Bowers, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to adopt the resolution and authorize the Administrator, Sabrena Posey Graham, to sign the mortgage. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION REGARDING LOWCOUNTRY REGIONAL HOME CONSORTIUM:**

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Moved by Council Member Bowers, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to adopt the resolution to adopt the HOME program resolution and authorize the Administrator, Sabrena Posey Graham, to sign the documents. Mr. Bickley stated that the County can only commit the unincorporated areas. Motion carried.

**ORDINANCES**

**THIRD (3<sup>rd</sup>) AND FINAL READING TO ORDINANCE #2004-004 - ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AND DELIVERY OF A FEE IN LIEU OF TAX AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN HAMPTON COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA AND NEVAMAR COMPANY, LLC**

Chairman Parker stated that this matter was deferred.

**2005-2006 BUDGET INCREASE INCLUSION:**

Moved by Council Member Bowers, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to include the increase of \$31,400 in the 2005-2006 Budget for additional security in the courtroom and Soil and Water. Motion carried.

**HAMPTON COUNTY'S 2005-2006 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET:**

Mr. Meyer, Finance Director, presented the budget to Council. (See attachment of presentation). Moved by Council Member Bowers, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to give third and final reading to the 2005-2006 Hampton County Fiscal Year Budget in the amount of \$10,231,400 (ten million, two hundred thirty-one thousand, four hundred dollars). Motion carried unanimously.

**BIDS**

**BIDS FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES BUILDING:**

Chairman Parker stated that they would go to the bids for the EMS building which Council has a packet of information before them. Council Member Wilson stated that he wanted to make a comment. Chairman Parker asked if he wanted to put that in writing. Council Member Wilson stated that he wanted to abstain from the discussion and voting on the bid for the Emergency Services Building because he is involved in one of the company's that is bidding on the Emergency Services Building project. Chairman Parker asked if the Clerk to Council got the information. Chairman Parker stated that Hampton County's procurement policy states that this needs to be in writing for the record. Chairman Parker asked Council Member Wilson if he could give her that in writing tonight before he left. Chairman Parker asked Council Member Wilson if he was going to leave the room at this time. Council Member Wilson stated that it was not necessary that he did so. **Moved** by Council Member Johnson that this bidding be excluded from this meeting until another meeting. Chairman Parker asked Mr. Johnson to hold on for a second. Council Member Wilson stated that he just did not have to participate. Chairman Parker stated that people don't have to leave the room. Council Member Bowers stated that he would like the public to know what the deal is but he would like it to be held over until the Administrator comes back to answer questions. Chairman

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Parker asked Council Member Johnson to restate his motion. **Moved** by Council Member Johnson that the bid not be approved until further investigation. Council Member Bowers stated that he would like it to be tabled until the Administrator comes back. Chairman Parker stated that until further information. Council Member Johnson stated that he would accept information. **Moved** by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Bowers, to table the matter until the Administrator gets back. Chairman Parker stated that she had a motion and a second and the matter was open for discussion. Chairman Parker stated that all Council Members have received the information. She stated that Council was not going to make any decisions, but she would like to have the Administrator's recommendation. Chairman Parker asked if there was any problem with that. Council Member Bowers stated that he did not care. Chairman Parker asked for the Administrator's report. Council Member Bowers stated that he just ask that the vote be called. Council Member Bowers stated that you have a motion and a second and only three people can vote, so it is obviously going to pass. Council Member Bowers stated that if Council is going into it, then you should let the public know. Council Member Bowers stated that there was a bid, Willard Wilson's company got the bid and there was a recommendation that it not be accepted. Council Member Bowers stated that there was some questions that he had and other people had of the Administrator, and she was not there. Chairman Parker stated that she wanted to finish the motion that was on the table. She stated that there was a motion and a second. She asked if there was any further discussion about that motion to table the matter. Motion carried to table the matter. Chairman Parker stated that she wanted Mr. Meyer to present Mrs. Graham's budget information. Mr. Meyer acknowledged the request. Mr. Meyer read the report from Mrs. Graham. (See Attachment - Bid Presentation). Chairman Parker stated that Council has voted to table the matter, but Mrs. Posey-Graham is back on Thursday, and she would like to ask that as soon as Mrs. Posey-Graham can to schedule a meeting to answer the questions. Chairman Parker stated that she would not be here next week, but wherever she is, she would come back. She stated that the reason that she is saying this is that there is a question about how long the County has which is 30 days from which the bid is received. Council Member Bowers stated that he could not imagine that, because a bid could be submitted on one day and another on another day, etc. Chairman Parker asked Mr. Meyer to please check on the matter for her. She stated that this meeting needed to be held ASAP so that they could move on this project.

## **COUNCIL'S BRIEFING**

### **REQUEST REGARDING RETENTION SCHEDULES FOR RECORDS:**

**Moved** by Council Member Bowers, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to approve the retention schedules as presented for the CETA and JTPA records. Motion carried unanimously.

## **REPORTS TO COUNCIL**

### **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

**SOUTHERN CAROLINA REGIONAL ALLIANCE ACTIVITY REPORT FOR MAY 2005:**  
Mr. Meyer presented the May 2005 report as submitted by Mr. Walt Inabinet to council for information.

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**2005 STRATEGIC PLAN:**

Mr. Meyer reminded Council that the 2005 Strategic Plan Orientation meeting would be Thursday, June 9, 2005 at 6:00 p. m., Council Chambers, B. T. DeLoach Building, Hampton, South Carolina. Council Member Bowers and Parker stated that they would not be able to attend. Council Member Johnson and Wilson stated that they would try to attend. Chairman Parker asked Mr. Meyer to remind Council Member.

**CAPITAL PROJECTS PROGRESS REPORT:**

Mr. Meyer reported that the collections are up from last year regarding the Capital Project Sales tax. (See Attachment - Capital Projects Report).

**COURTHOUSE AND OTHER FACILITIES ADVISORY COMMISSION'S (COFAC'S) RECOMMENDATION:**

Mr. Kevin Brown, Vice Chairman, COFAC, came before Council and gave a brief update regarding the renovation project. Kevin Brown, representing the Courthouse and Other Facilities Advisory Commission (COFAC) came before Council. Mr. Brown stated that some of you may have been over there at the theater to see the plan to revitalize downtown. He stated that :

- its 2 grants, one is applied for by the towns and one is being applied for by the county.
- it has already been approved and the application has been made. The grant is concentrating solely on the intersection in front of the courthouse and the parking area in front of the courthouse .
- if the county can get that grant and get that money; it would save money from the Capital Projects Fund that COFAC thought that they would have to use for that parking.
- COFAC wanted to go ahead and recommend it, because it certainly would not cost the county anything.
- he hoped they get will get the grant and can move forward.

Chairman Parker stated that what they are doing now is keeping the parking as is because we can't do it right now. Those plans are in the Palmetto State Bank and the Town Hall. Chairman Parker asked the public to please go see the plans and the County will keep their fingers crossed regarding being awarded the grant. Chairman Parker stated that this is the same type of grant that the sidewalk grant was. Chris Haulsee, Cruise 92 Radio, asked if the parking will stay there after all of this has been done. Chairman Parker stated that just for this phase. She stated that if the County gets this grant, the parking will stay there, but there will be other work done and then from what she gathers from COFAC, etc., there will be some parking changes, but not until there is other parking located. She stated that they say over and over even on this downtown part that the first recommendation was what was the situation with parking. She stated that they did not want to do anything to reduce parking, but for now if the County gets this grant, you will be parking there. Kevin stated that parking would stay the same, the grant would be for lights and trees which are expensive. Chairman Parker stated that this is just Phase I, and if they do it well, they will be applying a year from now for Phase II, Phase III and Phase IV. She stated that some towns have done it for 14 years. Mr. Brown stated that the Town was Darlington did so. With no other discussion, Council thanked Mr. Brown.

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Moved** by Council Member Bowers, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to go into executive session to discuss a contractual matter regarding the library, personnel matter regarding the sheriff's department, a personnel matter regarding a department of one, the Administrator's evaluation and an economic development matter. Motion carried. Session began 6:55 p. m. and ended 7:28 p. m.

**Chairman Parker** called the meeting to order. After coming out of executive session, Chairman Parker stated that the following were discussed:

- Contractual matter (Library) - Council discussed the matter and gave directions to Administration.
- Personnel Matter (Sheriff's Department) - Council discussed the matter, there were no decisions and will look into the matter further.
- Personnel Matter (Administrator's Evaluation) - Council discussed the Administrator's evaluation.
- Economic Development - Council received an update, and there will be good news for a neighboring county.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved** by Council Member Bowers, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to adjourn. Chairman Parker adjourned the meeting at 8:17 p. m.