

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL'S SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY: MARCH 15, 2010; 5:30 P. M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, B. T. DeLOACH BUILDING
201 JACKSON AVENUE, WEST, HAMPTON, SC**

Hampton County Council held a special meeting on Monday, March 15, 2010, 5:30 p. m., Council Chambers, B. T. DeLoach Building, Hampton, South Carolina. Council Member(s) present: Hugh B. Gray, Chairman; Christopher B. Haulsee, Virgin Johnson, Sr., Margaret S. "Peggy" Parker, Vice Chairman and Charles H. "Buddy" Phillips. Staff present: Sabrena Posey 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:

Council Member Johnson gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Miss Shakota Johnson.

CONSENT AGENDA

5.1 February 16, 2010 Regular Meeting Minutes

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA:

Moved by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Haulsee, to approve the Consent. Motion carried unanimously.

ADOPTION OF THE MARCH 1, 2010 COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA:

Chairman Gray asked if there were any changes to the agenda. **Moved** by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Haulsee, to adopt the March 1, 2010 Agenda with the following revisions: (1) Add Item #5.1, Public Hearing Regarding Carolina Soya and Ecology Biofuels Grants, (2) Add Item #5.2, Public Hearing Regarding the Community Development Block Grant Assessment, (3) Add Item #13.1.3, Request from Beaufort National Guard for Use of Airport for Training.. Motion carried unanimously.

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PUBLIC HEARING(S)

PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE CAROLINA SOYA AND ECOGY BIOFUELS GRANTS (MRS. BARBARA JOHNSON, LOWCOUNTRY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS):

Chairman Gray opened the public hearing to receive public comments regarding the Community Block Grant for Project for Carolina Soya and Ecology Biofuels. Mrs. Barbara Johnson, Lowcountry Council of Governments Representative, came before council to conduct the public hearing concerning to review program performance and accomplishments conducted under a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) project known as CDBG # 4-ED-05-016, Carolina Soya On-Site Infrastructure Expansion, wherein the following activities were undertaken:

- Hampton County received \$690,000 to expand on site rail to serve Carolina Soya and Ecology Biofuels.

Mrs. Johnson stated that this public hearing and the matters to be discussed are subject to the provisions of the Hampton County's Citizen Participation Plan, developed in anticipation of participation in the State of South Carolina's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, providing for the participation of the citizens of Hampton County in the planning and implementation of community and economic development projects which will involve CDBG funds. With no other comments, Chairman Gray closed the public hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT ASSESSMENT:

Chairman Gray opened the public hearing to receive public comments regarding the Community Development Block Grant Assessment. Mrs. Barbara Johnson, Lowcountry Council of Governments, conducted the public hearing. Mrs. Johnson stated that the public hearing was to solicit public input on community needs and priorities for housing, public facilities, and economic development in Hampton County. She stated that at this public hearing, Hampton County would provide the results of its needs assessment and the activities which might be undertaken to meet identified needs, including the estimated amount proposed to be used for activities that will benefit persons of low and moderate income. She stated that this public hearing and the matters to be discussed are subject to the provisions of the Hampton County's Citizen Participation Plan, developed in anticipation of participation in the State of South Carolina's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, providing for the participation of the citizens of Hampton County in the planning and implementation of community and economic development projects which will involve CDBG funds. Sheriff Smalls along with Administrator contributed several items, such as Sheriff Sub-Stations in the North and South Sections of the county(For example: Garnett Area); Administrator Graham stated that the county would like to locate Fire Sub-Stations in Miley and Early Branch, also she listed Infrastructure. Administrator Graham stated that she would get a listing of all items and council will prioritize and adopt at the next meeting. With no other comments, Chairman Gray closed the public hearing

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PUBLIC COMMENT(S)

MR. VINCE VIOLA REGARDING MAINTENANCE OF A PRIVATE ROAD:

Mr. Viola came before council and requested that the Public Works Department stop maintenance on a private road that goes across their property. He stated that they (he and his wife) oppose any maintenance of their road.

MRS. BETTY RUTH CREWS REGARDING DECISION ON REQUEST FOR RENOVATIONS AT THE HAMPTON COUNTY MUSEUM:

Mrs. Betty Ruth Crews – Mrs. Crews along with Mrs. Marian Platts and Sarah Kring came before Council to request permission to perform some repairs and painting at the Hampton County Museum. **Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to grant permission for the Historical Society to complete the work as listed and authorize the County Administrator to write a letter to the contractor. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes were approved under the Consent Agenda.

PRESENTATION(S)

HAMPTON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT APPOINTEE:

Chairman Gray presented a Certificate of Appointment to Buddy H. “Wallie” Hiers, Jr. for appointment to the Hampton County Board of Adjustments and Appeals.

APPOINTMENT(S) TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

HAMPTON COUNTY FIRE BOARD:

Council voted by secret ballot to appoint Dobie Hiers to the Hampton County Fire Board.

RESOLUTION(S)

There were no resolution(s).

ORDINANCES

FIRST READING TO ORDINANCE #2010-001, GRANTING EASEMENT FOR A WATER LINE OVER, ACROSS PROPERTY AT THE HAMPTON COUNTY AIRPORT:

Council Member Haulsee if the runway was lengthened would the town have to move the water line. Administrator Graham stated that they said that they would to so. Council Member Haulsee wanted to know why they couldn't locate the water line in that location now to avoid any relocation if the runway was lengthened. County Attorney Solomons stated that this was

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discussed and they wanted to place it in the requested location. Council Member Phillips wanted to know if the town was going to pay for the relocation if it has to be moved. County Attorney Solomons stated that they would. Council Member Phillips stated that he would like the wording added to the document. **Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to give first reading to Ordinance #2010-001, Granting Easement for a Water Line Over, Across Property at the Hampton County Airport. Motion carried unanimously.

BID(S)

AWARDING BID FOR PROFESSIONAL AUDITING SERVICES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010 AND TWO SUBSEQUENT YEARS:

Moved by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Parker, to award the bid to McGregor and Company, Orangeburg, South Carolina for professional auditing services for Fiscal Year 2010 and two subsequent years in the amount of \$83,606 (eighty-three thousand, six hundred six dollars). Motion carried unanimously. (See Attachment #1)

COUNCIL=S BRIEFING(S)

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE (CHAIRMAN GRAY):

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

COUNCIL'S DISCUSSION POINT(S):

Council Member Phillips

Council Member Phillips stated that he wanted to publically recognize Chairman Gray for being selected the Council Person of the Year. He stated that it is well deserved.

Council Member Haulsee

Council Member Haulsee reported that he visited Mr. J. C. Clifton at the Hampton County Animal Shelter and the new kennels are looking good. He stated that the tops need to be put on but Mr. Clifton is running out of funds. He asked that Mr. Clifton provide the information at the next meeting regarding the funding needed for completion of the kennels.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS REPORT:

The Buildings and Grounds Committee did not meet at 5:30 p. m.

REPORTS TO COUNCIL

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Lease Agreement for the Annex Building of the Donated Property

Moved by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Parker, to give first reading to the Lease Agreement for the Annex Building of the Donated Property (Speights and Runyan) Council asked that the time period of one year be included in the lease. Motion carried unanimously.

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Hiring a Professional Planner to Help Rewrite the Existing Unified Land Development Ordinance

Mr. Randy Crews, Building Inspector, presented on behalf of the Planning Commission and Building Department Staff to recommend the hiring of a planner to rewrite the Unified Land Development Ordinance. Council Member Parker wanted to know if the Planning Commission was given the opportunity to give input regarding the selection of the Planner. Mr. Crews stated that two members from the Planning Commission helped in the selection process, but it did not go back to the full Planning Commission. Council Member Parker wanted to know if the recommendation was coming from the Planning Commission. Mr. Crews stated that it was not. Council Member Parker stated that this is such an important task. She stated that a recommendation should come from the Planning Commission. There was a short discussion. **Moved** by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to accept the recommendation of the Administrator appointed committee and accept the bid of Lowcountry Council of Governments (LCOG) in the amount of \$12,500 (twelve thousand, five hundred dollars) to perform the services of rewriting the existing Unified Land Development Ordinance. Motion carried with Council Member Parker voting against. (See Attachment #3)

Request from Beaufort National Guard for Use of Airport for Training

Moved by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to approve the request from Beaufort National Guard for use of the airport for the requested training. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

CONTRACTUAL/LEGAL MATTER:

Moved by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Haulsee, to go into executive session. Motion carried unanimously. **Moved** by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Haulsee, to come out of executive session. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Gray stated that council discussed a contractual/legal matter.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Haulsee, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Gray adjourned the meeting at 7:42 p. m.