

**HAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL'S MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY; FEBRUARY 21, 2012; 6:00 P. M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, HAMPTON COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
200 JACKSON AVENUE, EAST, HAMPTON, SC**

Hampton County Council held its regular meeting on Tuesday, February 21, 2012, 6:00 p. m., Council Chambers, Hampton County Administration Building, Hampton, South Carolina. Council Member(s) present: Hugh B. Gray, Chairman; Christopher B. Haulsee, Virgin Johnson, Sr. and Charles H. "Buddy" Phillips, Vice Chairman and Shedron Williams. Staff present: Sabrena P. Graham, Administrator and Aline Newton, Clerk to Council. 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:

Chairman Gray gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Gray.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Haulsee, to approve the Consent Agenda:

3.1.1 February 6, 2012 County Council's Meeting Minutes

and the February 21, 2012 County Council Meeting Agenda with the following revision(s): (1) Delete Item #13.1.1, Request from the Hampton County Planning Commission to Rename a Road in Hampton County (Morrison Parrot Drive be changed to Logistics Drive), (2) Delete Item #14.1, Executive Session Regarding a Legal Matter. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT(S)

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes were approved under the Consent Agenda.

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PRESENTATION(S)

MAYOR JAMES RISHER, TOWN OF GIFFORD, REQUESTING A DONATION OF PROPERTY TO THE TOWN OF GIFFORD:

Mayor Risher came before council to request the donation of property to the Town of Gifford. He stated that there was a lot attached to the town's playground and would appreciate if the county would donate the lot to the Town of Gifford. He stated that there were two lots and that one of the lots joined his property next to his house, and he would purchase that lot. Chairman Gray asked council if they had any questions. There were none. Chairman Gray informed Mayor Risher that council will take the matter under consideration and will advise by letter of the decision made.

APPOINTMENT(S) TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

APPOINTMENTS TO THE HAMPTON COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION:

Chairman Gray stated that there were four applicants for four vacancies. Chairman Gray asked Mr. Crews if he wanted to address the request for the appointments. Mr. Crews, Building Official, came before council and stated that it was discussed but the Planning Commission did not vote on the recommendation. Mr. Randy Crews, Building Inspector, recommended that Council appoint the lowest ranking applicant to the least amount of years. Mr. Crews explained that this was not a recommendation from the Planning Commission. Council discussed the matter and wanted to understand the request. Council was unsure as to why the person, an incumbent and most experienced commission member, would be transferred to the unexpired term instead of the full term. Council voted by secret ballot to appoint Corrin "Bud" Bowers, Okey Byrd, Jake Sullivan and Lawton C. O'Cain to the Hampton County Planning Commission. Moved by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Williams to table the assignment of terms until the next meeting.

RESOLUTION(S)

There were no resolution(s).

ORDINANCE(S)

There were no ordinances.

BID(S)

There were no bid(s).

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COUNCIL'S BRIEFING(S)

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE (CHAIRMAN GRAY):

Chairman Gray gave his update. (See Attachment #1)

COUNCIL'S DISCUSSION POINT(S):

Council Member Williams

Council Member Williams reported that he would be attending the South Carolina Association of Counties' Mid-Year Conference, February 22-23, 2012.

Council Member Haulsee

Council Member Haulsee reported that the Capital Projects Sales Tax Commission would be meeting at 6:00 p. m. in the Council Chambers on tomorrow night, February 22, 2012.

REPORTS TO COUNCIL

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

REQUEST TO RECLASSIFY A POSITION IN THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE:

Administrator Graham stated that there was a request from the assessor's office to reclassify a position. She stated that she would ask Mr. Mike Meyer, Finance/Human Resources Director, to present. Mr. Meyer came before council and stated that there was a request from the assessor's office to reclassify an appraiser's position from a full-time, Grade 13 to a full-time, Grade 14. Mr. Meyer informed council that there is a statute since January of 2008 that allows for the reclassification. He stated that there was no position in the current classification of study between the appraiser and the assessor. This reclassification would create that position. Council Member Phillips wanted to know if this was something that had to be done by law. Mr. Lester Warren, Assessor, stated that this person is the only one that is qualified for the upgrade from the apprentice to the licensed appraiser. He's the only one eligible. Administrator Graham stated that there was not a full MGT study for the county. Council Member Phillips wanted to know if other departments have this position classification. Mr. Warren confirmed that they did and stated that a lot of other counties have an Appraiser 1 and Appraiser 2 positions. He stated that usually it is not easy to get a licensed appraiser. Council Member Haulsee wanted to know if this person would have more responsibility. Mr. Warren stated that he would. Council Member Haulsee commented that this would be an increase in pay with more responsibility. Council Member Williams stated that he had some concerns, because several months ago council received a request from Betty Hodges for a change, and it was not approved. He stated that he had some concerns. Administrator Graham stated that the request from Mrs. Hodges was approved; she requested that a full-time position be changed to two part-time positions. Council Member Williams stated that he was not talking about that request; he was talking about the request regarding her pay grade and years of service in reference to her retirement. **Moved** by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Haulsee, to approve the request from the assessor's office to reclassify an appraiser's position from a full-time, Grade 13 to a full-time, Grade 14. Motion carried unanimously. (See Attachment #2)

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HAMPTON COUNTY GOALS 2012-2013:

Administrator Graham presented to council the prioritized list of ten (10) goals to be approved and distributed to the department heads. **Moved** by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Phillips, to approve the prioritized list of 2012-2013 Hampton County Goals. Motion carried unanimously. (See Attachment #3)

FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012 SECOND QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT:

Mr. Mike Meyer, Finance Director, presented to council the Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Second Quarter Financial Report. (See Attachment #4)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There were no executive session matter(s).

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Council Member Haulsee, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Gray adjourned the meeting at 6:40 p. m.